BUKU KONIK ELEX MEDIA KOMPUTINDO

DETECTIVE SCHOOL Q

16

Story: SEIMARU AMAGI

Art: FUMIYA SATO

探偵学園Q

IRREGULAR SCANS CREDITS

RAW SOURCE : PHIESELPHIE
CLEANING : MRMARIORBLX
TRANSLATIONS : RAY OF HOPE
TYPESETTING : THE WATCHFUL GENT

CHAPTER 120 : THE BLOODIED FLOWERBED - PART 3

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KYAAA AAAAA AAAHH HHHHH !!!!!!!!

!?

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GO CALL FOR HELP!

O-OKAY!

WHO JUST SHOUTED NOW?

I DIDN'T HEAR A SHOUT.

HUH?

?

GUYS, PLEASE HELP!!

HA

HA

!?

SISTER KUROKI IS...

I-IN THE COSTUME ROOM...

TOUYA?

AAAAAA

DAMN IT!!

!!

T-THERE ...

AAAAA

AMAKUSA-SAN...

HAMAYUU-SAN...

WHERE IS SISTER KUROKI?!

!!

IT'S TOO LATE...

A-AMAKUSA-SAN, HOW IS SHE?

S-SISTER ...

SISTER KUROKI?

SHE IS DEAD.

フラ…

IT'S MARIA'S CURSE... MARIA WHO COMMI-TTED SUICIDE AT THAT TIME!

KUON-SAN?

I-IT'S MARIA'S CURSE...

EH?

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……

SHE WAS STABBED WITH A STAKE IN THE BACK, ALL THE WAY THROUGH TO THE HEART...

IT'S THE SAME METHOD USED TO KILL A VAMPIRE.

IT'S THE SAME AS THE STATUE OF THE VIRGIN MARY!!

SISTER KUROKI DIED WITH BLOOD FLOWING DOWN HER BACK...

DON'T YOU GUYS THINK SO TOO?!

NOOOO OOO!!!!

DID SHE JUST SAY CURSE?!

CURSE?

M-MARIA'S CURSE??

C-COULD IT REALLY BE...

D.D.S.

WE'VE GOT TO STAY CALM...

AH

UM

OH NO

OH

G-GUYS COME ON...

EVERYBODY, PLEASE CALM DOWN.

WE WERE SENT HERE BY DDS AT THE REQUEST OF YOUR SCHOOL CHAIRMAN!

A-ACTUALLY, I AM A DDS STUDENT!!

THEY'RE IN A PANIC, SO I SHOULDN'T TELL THEM I'M A GUY, JUST YET.

T-THAT FAMOUS SCHOOL OF DAN MORIHIKO'S...!

D-DID YOU JUST SAY DDS?!

TO NOT LEAVE THE ROOM.

WE WILL NOW SECURE THE CRIME SCENE. I REQUEST ALL OF YOU...

AH

Y-YES, I AM ALSO A DDS STUDENT.

W-WHEN YOU SAID 'WE', DID YOU MEAN...

FINE, IT'S OKAY. IT'S NOT A BIG PROBLEM...

T-THE TWO OF THEM WERE FROM DDS?!

N-NO WAY!!

TOUYA-SAN, CALL THE POLICE, PLEASE.

YES!

!?

THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO SOLVE THAT TRICK SO EASILY!!

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CRASH!

ガラン

CRASH!

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カッ

SOMEONE BROKE INTO THE COSTUME ROOM FROM OUTSIDE?

S-SO THIS MEANS...

HUH? THE WINDOW IS BROKEN?

.....

.....

COULD IT HAVE BEEN THE CRIMINAL?

IN THAT CASE...

WE SHOULD CONSIDER THE POSSI-BILITY THAT THE KILLER WAS A ROBBBER AND IS STILL IN HERE!

LOOKS LIKE THEY HAVE.

KAM-CHI KA-SAN...

HUH? YES...

EVERYONE WHO WAS IN THE HALL HAVE GATHERED HERE, RIGHT?

B-BHT THESE ARE PIECES OF GLASS FROM THE WINDOW, RIGHT? THAT MEANS SOME-ONE BROKE IN FROM OUTSIDE...

HUH?

NO, THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE.

WHAT DO YOU TH NK ABOUT THOSE PIECES OF GLASS?

HUH? PIECES OF GLASS?

I'VE CALLED THE POLICE AND THE SCHOOL CHAIRMAN, THEY SA-...

WAIT, TOUYA-SAN...

SOME-THING'S NOT RIGHT.

HUH, WHAT'S TH S?

PIECES OF GLASS, PIECES OF GLASS...

PIECES OF GLASS UNDER THE BROKEN WINDOW...

BY SOME-ONE WHO WAS INSIDE THE ROOM.

SO THAT MEANS THE WINDOW WAS BROKEN WHEN IT WAS OPEN LIKE THIS...

BECAUSE THE WIN-DOW WAS CLOSED, RIGHT?

IF THE KILLER DID COME IN BY BREAK NG THE WIN-DOW...

THE GLASS PIECES SHOULD HAVE FALLED RIGHT BELOW THE W NDOW...

BUT ARE LOCATED LEFT OF IT...

NOT HERE!

HOWEVER, THERE AREN'T ANY GLASS FRAGMENTS BELOW THE WINDOW OR NEAR THE PANE...

WHAT SHE SAID IS CORRECT...

TO MAKE US TH NK THE KILLER CAME FROM THE OUTSIDE!

SO THIS IS A TRICK...

IT'S BECAUSE THE REAL KILLER WAS SOMEONE...

IN THIS HALL!

THERE IS ONLY ONE REASON TO MAKE US THINK THE KILLER CAME FROM OUTSIDE...

IN OTHER WORDS...

THEN WE SHALL PROCEED...

HUH?

SO THERE'S NO WAY ONE OF US COULD BE THE KILLER!

I-IMPOSSIBLE, AFTER SISTER KUROKI LEFT FOR THE COSTUME ROOM...

WE ALL STAYED PUT IN THE HALL...

IRREGULARITIES?

IF WE ONLY INVESTIGATE THIS ROOM THOROUGHLY...

WE ARE BOUND TO FIND MANY IRREGULARITIES...

ALRIGHT. THEN WE'LL START WITH...

ARE YOU READY?

I HOPE YOU WILL ANSWER MY QUESTIONS TRUTHFULLY...

YES. NOW THEN, EVERYBODY, I WISH TO KNOW CERTAIN DETAILS FROM YOU...

WHAT WAS IT ABOUT?

W-WELL, THAT WAS...

.....

BEFORE THE REHEARSAL BEGAN, YOU THREE WERE HAVNG AN ARGUMENT...

KAMICHIKA TAMAKI, THE ONE WHO PLAYS THE ROLE OF THE PRINCESS AND HAMAYUU MISAKI, THE DIRECTOR....

.....

KUON BEN'KO, THE SCRIPT-WRITER...

CAMILLIA GOES INSIDE THE ROOM AND SWIFTLY FLIPS THROUGH THE PAGES OF THE DIARY (SHE REMOVES HER CAPE). REALIZING SOMETHING, SHE SCANS THE ENTIRE ROOM AND FINDS AN ANTIQUE GUN DISPLAYED ON THE WALL. CAMILLIA TAKES THE GUN AND STEADIES HERSELF. SHE GOES OUT OF THE ROOM WHILE COCKING THE GUN. WHEN CATHERINE APPEARS, CAMILLIA QUICKLY RAISES THE GUN WHICH SHE HAD BEEN ~~HIDING INSIDE HER CAPE.~~

hiding in her hand, after removing her cape.

W-WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THIS, KUON?!

YOU CAN'T JUST CHANGE THE SCRIPT WITHOUT INFORMING THE DIRECTOR!

WHY NOT? IT'S MY SCRIPT, AFTER ALL.

WHICH PART DID SHE CHANGE, HAMAYUU?

THIS PART!

IF YOU KEEP CHANGING IT, IT'LL CONFUSE SISTER KUROKI!

HOW MANY DAYS DO YOU THINK IS LEFT TILL WE HAVE TO STAGE THE PLAY??

W-WHAT THE?! PLEASE STOP MESSING AROUND!

HM? IN MY OPINION, THIS IS BETTER THAN THE FIRST DRAFT.

.....

IF YOU WANT ME TO RESTORE THE SCRIPT...

I'LL DO IT!

FINE, I GOT IT...

IN THE PLAY, YOU ACCIDENTALLY BROKE A GLASS OF WINE IN ONE SCENE, RIGHT?

.....

KAMICHIKA-SAN...

SINCE I THOUGHT IT'D BE GOOD FOR THE PLAY!

BUT WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO CHANGE THE SCRIPT .

JUST BEFORE THE MAIN EVENT, KUON-SAN?

BY THE WAY...

OH!

IT ISN'T LIKE YOU TO BE SO NERVOUS...

OH MY, WHAT HAPPENED, KAMICHIKA?

KYAAA!!

I'M SO SORRY, PLEASE FORGIVE ME, SISTER KUROKI!

OUCH!

Y-YES...

I JUST GRAZED MY FINGER A LITTLE BIT...

A-AHH, ARE YOU OKAY, SISTER?!

IT'S FINE, IT'S JUST A SMALL WOUND...

LICK!

IT'LL HEAL BY ITSELF.

OH NO, WE'RE OUT OF BAND-AIDS!

BAND-AID

HAMAYUU, IS THERE A BAND-AID IN THE FIRST AID KIT?

HMM, BAND-AIDS BAND-AIDS...

I... I WAS JUST TIRED BECAUSE I HAD STAYED UP LATE YESTERDAY, STUDYING FOR THE EXAMS.

YOU SEEMED VERY DISTRACTED, KAMICH KA-SAN...

WHEN THAT GLASS BROKE...

THE KNIFE USED TO STAB CAMI...A IN THE PLAY WAS GONE!

SO WE HAD TO REPLACE IT WITH A KNIFE FROM LAST YEAR'S PLAY, WHICH WAS A LITTLE BIGGER.

BUT THERE WEREN'T ANY!

HUH, THAT'S WEIRD...

I PUT SOME NEW BAND-AIDS IN THE FIRST AID BOX ONLY YESTERDAY!

WHAT IS THAT?

SPEAKING OF MISS-ING THINGS ...

SOMETHING ELSE ALSO WENT MISSING!

T-THEN...

HUH?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

I HAVE UNDERSTOOD ENOUGH...

I SEE...

!!

THE FOG HAS LIFTED.

ぽ!?

……

FINALLY...

EVERYTHING HAS BECOME CLEAR...

STARTING FROM THE ALIBI TRICK...

ALL THE WAY TILL THE IDENTITY OF THE CULPRIT...

I DON'T MIND IF I DIE RIGHT HERE AND NOW!!

GOD, FORGIVE ME FOR THINKING THIS AT SUCH A TIME.

BUT AT THIS MOMENT, RYU LOOKS SO HANDSOME!!

AT THIS RATE, I'LL PASS OUT!

AAHH!!

THE BLOOD-STAINED MARY STATUE ON THE TERRACE ...

AND THE MESSAGE, 'MURDER' WRITTEN ON IT LATER...

INITIAL PREPA-RATION?!

THE INITIAL PREPARATION FOR THIS TRICK...

HAD BEEN CARRIED OUT BEFORE WE EVEN CAME TO THIS SCHOOL...

IMPOSSIBLE! EVEN IF THEY ARE FROM DDS, THEY CANNOT POSSIBLY KNOW THAT FAR!!!...

.....

DEVISED BY THE CULPRIT.

THAT WAS THE FIRST PSYCHOLOGICAL TRICK...

OKAY, CALM DOWN... IT WILL BE FINE, I'LL BE POSITIVE! THIS IS JUST A MERE SETBACK!

...

THE TRICKS I DEVISED SO CAREFULLY CAN'T BE SOLVED SO EASILY!

ゴォォ

WAS WHY THE MESSAGE ON THE STATUE...

WAS WRITTEN ON THE BACK.

WHEN I ARRIVED HERE, THE THING THAT PUZZLED ME...

BESIDES, KILLING THAT WOMAN...

WAS THE ONLY THING I COULD DO FOR MARIA.

DOES IT HAVE A MOTIVE BEHIND IT?!

HUH?! WASN'T THAT JUST THE WHIM OF THE CULPRIT?

OF COURSE...

WHY MAKE IT BLEED FROM THE BACK, AND ALSO WRITE THE MESSAGE AT THE BACK AS WELL?

SO INSTEAD OF MAKING IT SEEM LIKE THE STATUE WAS BLEEDING FROM ITS CHEST...

WHEN THE CULPRIT HAD DETERMINED TO LEAVE A MESSAGE LIKE THAT, WHY NOT WRITE IT ON THE FRONT?

THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN EASILY VISIBLE SINCE THE STATUE FACES THE DOOR.

E-EMPHASIZE... THE ACTUAL MURDER?!

IT WAS TO EMPHASIZE THE ACTUAL MURDER!!

THE BLOODSTAIN ON THE BACK, AND THE MESSAGE, 'MURDER', MUST MEAN SOMETHING...

THEN...

WOULD BELIEVE THAT THE SCENE BEFORE US WAS AN ACTUAL MURDER.

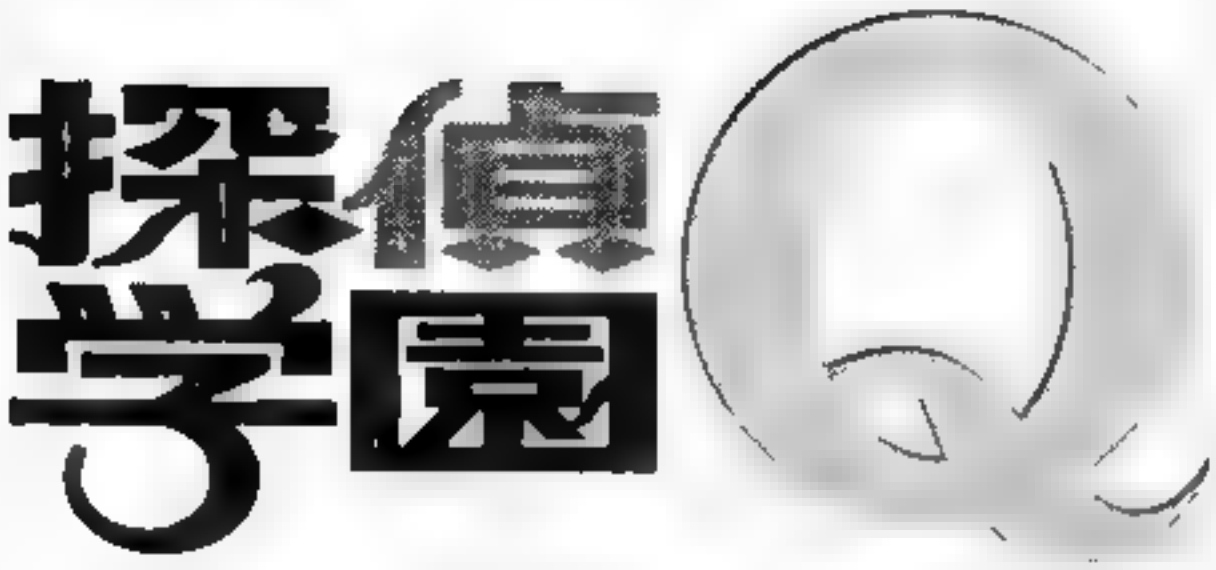
THE CULPRIT HAD TO DO SOMETHING TO ENSURE THAT WE, WHO WERE PREDICTED TO ARRIVE AT THE CRIME SCENE...

THAT'S RIGHT! IN ORDER TO PERFECT THIS ALIBI TRICK...

THE CULPRIT MADE USE OF A TIME-DIFFERENCE TRICK...

WHICH MEANS THAT SHE, WHO THEN HAD A PERFECT ALIBI AT FIRST GLANCE...

IS NOW AMONG YOU.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CHAPTER 121 : THE BLOODY FLOWERBED - PART 4

B-BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

O-ONE OF US...

MURDERED SISTER KUROKI?!

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TRUE. BUT WHAT IF SHE WASN'T KILLED WHEN WE WERE ALL ON THE STAGE?

HUH?

IF ANYONE HAD STEPPED OUT, THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN SEEN!

WHEN SHE WAS STABBED WITH THE STAKE, WE WERE ALL BUSY ON THE STAGE!

B-BUT RY-...

AMA-KUSA-SAN!

AT A LATER TIME?!

AT A LATER TIME?

WHAT IF SHE WAS KILLED...

WHAT?

LYING DOWN WITH A BLOODY BACK SN'T THE SAME AS BE.NG DEAD.

WE SAW SISTER KuROKI ON THE GROUND WITH BLOOD ON HER BACK!

WHEN HAMAYUU-SAN AND I ARRIVED ON THE SCENE OF THE CRIME...

TOUYA-SAN, WHEN YOU SAW SISTER KUROKI IN THE COSTUME ROOM...

SHE WAS STILL ALIVE!

HOW COULD A PERSON STILL BE ALIVE AFTER THEIR HEART WAS STABBED WITH A STAKE?!

EHH?! S-SHE WAS STILL ALIVE?!

DOESN'T TH S LOOK LIKE THE MARK OF A NEEDLE?

AROUND THE BASE OF SIS-TER KUROKI'S INDEX F NGER...

IS A SMALL WOUND, DIFF-ERENT TO THE WOUND CAUSED BY THE BROKEN GLASS...

grip!

THAT IS NOT THE CASE...

TAKE A LOOK AT TH S.

WHEN TOUYA-SAN FOUND SISTER KUROKI IN THE COS-TUME ROOM...

SISTER KUROKI WAS SIMPLY PASSED OUT FROM A DRUG ADMIN STERED TO HER THROUGH A NEEDLE...

THE DRUG WAS MOST PROBABLY A VARIANT OF NICOTINE THAT W LL FUNCTION AS A DEPRESSANT WHEN TAKEN N SMALL DOES AND KNOCKS OUT A PERSON...

AS WELL AS PARALYZES THEM!

IT WAS ARTIFICIAL BLOOD!

THAT WAS NOT REAL BLOOD...

T-THEN WHAT ABOUT THE BLOOD ON HER BACK?!

APPLIED TO SISTER KUROKI'S SHIRT BEFOREHAND...

YES. IT WAS PROBABLY AN ANIMAL'S BLOOD...

ARTIFICIAL BLOOD?!

BECAUSE ON THE STAGE, SISTER KUROKI WAS ALWAYS WEARING THIS THICK CAPE!!

SO, YOU'VE REALISED?

YES, THE BLOODSTAIN WOULD NOT BE VISIBLE...

THIS MADE US BELIEVE SHE HAD BEEN STABBED AND WAS BLEEDING.

BUT A STAIN LIKE THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN NOTICED BY US ON THE STAGE...

AHH!

BUT IT WAS OBSCURED BY HER CAPE!

.....

WHEN SISTER KUROKI WAS ACTING ON THE STAGE, THE BLOODSTAIN HAD ALREDY BEEN SMEARED ON HER BACK...

DIDN'T SISTER KUROKI ALWAYS ASK FOR A STUDENT TO HELP HER CHANGE?

WELL, YES...

KUON-SAN!

Y-YES!

SO, THE CULPRIT MADE USE OF THAT RECURRNG HABIT OF HERS!!

SO SHE DID ASK FOR A STUDENT'S HELP TO CHANGE.

SHE HAD A SERIOUS BURN MARK ON HER CHEST, WHICH MADE IT VERY DIFFICULT FOR HER TO RAISE HER ARMS...

LIKE THIS?

YES. NOW, REMOVE THE CAPE AND PUT IT ON THE HANGER.

W-WHAT IS IT?

PLEASE TRY TO WEAR THIS CAPE LIKE SHE USED TO.

ｴｯ

KAMICHIKA-SAN!!

Y-YES?!

W-WHAT IS THE MEANING OF ALL THIS?!

EVERYONE! PLEASE LOOK AT HOW KAMICHIKA-SAN IS HOLDING THE CAPE NOW.

STOP RIGHT THERE!

ﾊﾝﾊﾝ

.....?

O-OKAY, BUT WHY...

RIGHT AT THE COLLAR, RIGHT?

AH, THAT'S TRUE!

SHE IS HOLDING IT LIKE SISTER KUROKI WHEN WE FOUND HER PASSED OUT...

AND ALSO...

THE WAY TO HOLD A HANGER...

WOULD HOLD IT THIS WAY.

99 OUT OF 100 PEOPLE...

THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO HOLD A CAPE.

IN ORDER TO HANG A CAPE ON A HANGER.

WELL YES, ELSE IT WOULD BE HARD TO HANG IT UP.

EXACTLY! AND...

YOU WOULD HOLD THE HANGER THE SAME WAY AS KAMICHIKA-SAN.

WHEN YOU HANG SOMETHING AS HEAVY AS THE CAPE...

!?

WOULD HAVE BEEN POSITIONED RIGHT ABOUT WHERE YOUR HAND IS NOW, KAMICHIKA-SAN.

THE NEEDLE WHICH HAD KNOCKED SISTER KUROKI OUT...

SO IN THIS CIRCUM-STANCE, IT WAS EASY FOR THE CULPRIT...

TO MAKE US BELIEVE SHE HAD DIED FROM A STAB WOUND ON HER BACK!

AND THEN, BECAUSE OF THE DRUG IN THE NEEDLE...

AHH!

SHE FELL DOWN ON THE FLOOR, STILL HOLDING ON TO THE CAPE.

!!

SISTER KUROKI FELT THE PRICK OF THE NEEDLE AND THREW THE HANGER AWAY.

SO, JUST LIKE HOW KAMICHIKA-SAN DID NOW...

O-OK!

I-S SHE DEAD?!

GO CALL FOR HELP!!

SHE MUST HAVE TOLD YOU THIS...

WHEN YOU ARRIVED AT THE CRIME SCENE..

THE CULPRIT USED YOU AS A WITNESS!

S-SO THAT MEANS...

AND THE MOMENT YOU LEFT THE COSTUME ROOM...

HAA

HAA

THE BLOOD WOULD NOT GUSH OUT AFTER SHE WAS STABBED...

SINCE THE DRUG HAD SLOWED THE BEATING OF HER HEART,

THAT'S WHY THE CULPRIT WAS NOT SPLASHED WITH HER BLOOD...

ISN'T THAT RIGHT...

AND AFTER THE REST OF US HAD ARRIVED, YOU STOOD BESIDE THE BODY WITH AN INNOCENT FACE.

KYU

DO

THE ONLY ONE WHO COULD HAVE PULLED OFF THIS TRICK TO KI... SISTER KUROKI...

IS THE ONE WHO ACCOMPANIED TOUYA TO THE COSTUME ROOM...

AND THAT IS YOU!!

HAMAYUU MISAKI-SAN?

AND PUT THE BLOODSTAINED SHIRT ON HER!

YES, I'LL HELP YOU PUT IT ON.

CARMILLA'S BLOUSE, PLEASE

TODAY AS WELL, YOU PRETENDED TO HELP HER...

BECAUSE SHE WAS ATTACTED TO YOU?

ISN'T IT TRUE YOU WERE THE ONE WHO ALWAYS HELPED HER CHANGE,

TO SUBCONSCIOUSLY MAKE US CONNECT THE BLOOD ON HER BACK TO THE BLOOD ON THE STATUE, AND COVER UP THE TIME OF THE MURDER!

THE BLOODSTAIN ON THE BACK OF THE VIRGIN MARY WAS A CLEVER PSYCHOLOGICAL TRICK DEVISED TO CONFUSE US...

IN ORDER TO COMPLETE THE TIME-DIFFERENCE TRICK!!

THE CHARADE OF THE BLEEDING STATUE WAS DONE...

HAMAYLLI IS THE ONE WHO KILLED HER?!

T-THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

FIRST OF ALL...

YOUR ACTIONS BEFORE THE REHEARSAL WERE VERY STRANGE.

STRANGE?

BESIDES, WHAT IS THE BASIS OF YOUR ACCUSATION?

ISN'T THAT A LITTLE FAR-FETCHED?

A TRICK, YOU SAY?

HEH!

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, AMAKUSA-SAN?

HOWEVER, IN THE REVISED PART...

CAMILLIA GOES INSIDE THE ROOM AND SWIFTLY FLIPS THROUGH THE PAGES OF THE DIARY (SHE REMOVES HER CAPE). REALIZING SOMETHING, SHE SCANS THE ENTIRE ROOM AND FINDS AN ANTIQUE GUN DISPLAYED ON THE WALL. CAMILLIA TAKES THE GUN AND STEADIES HERSELF. SHE GOES OUT OF THE ROOM WHILE COCKING THE GUN. WHEN CATHERINE APPEARS, CAMILLIA QUICKLY RAISES THE GUN WHICH SHE HAD BEEN HIDING INSIDE HER CAPE

hiding in her hand.

after removing her cape.

SHE HAD TO REMOVE HER CAPE!

部屋に入ってきてすぐにテーブル
コートをぬぎ
古めかしい銃がかか
と、壁に

YOU CAN'T JUST CHANGE THIS BECAUSE YOU ARE THE SCRIPT-WRITER!

WEREN'T YOU FURIOUS WHEN KUON-SAN CHANGED THE SCRIPT?

ペラ

IN THE ORIGINAL PART, SISTER KUROKI DIDN'T REMOVE HER CAPE ON THE STAGE.

THIS IS THE CHANGE IN THE SCRIPT.

YOU REACHED FOR THE BAND-AID BOX AND SAID...

THAT'S RIGH. WHEN SISTER KUROKI HURT HER HAND ON THE GLASS FRAGMENTS...

S-SO YOU PROTESTED THE CHANGE,

BECAUSE IF SHE REMOVED THE CAPE, WE'D SEE THE BLOODSTAIN?

BUT YOU STRAIGHT OUT TOLD A LIE!

BECAUSE KUON-SAN HAD JUST BROUGHT IN A NEW PACK.

THERE WERE SUPPOSED TO BE SOME BAND-AIDS...

OH NO!

WE'RE OUT OF BAND-AIDS!

BESIDES, THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT I AM THE CULPRIT!!

I-I DIDN'T LIE! THERE REALLY WERE NO BAND-AIDS IN THE BOX!

IF THERE IS, THEN SHOW ME, COME ON!

SINCE THE BAND-AID IS MADE OF A THICK GAUZE, THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT THE NEEDLE MAY PIEECE THE BAND-AID INSTEAD OF HER FINGER...

THE WOUND MADE BY THE GLASS FRAG-MENT AND THE WOUND MADE BY THE NEEDLE WOULD BE CLOSE TO EACH OTHER...

AND THE DRUG WOULD NOT WORK!

BUT WHY DID SHE HAVE TO LIE ABOUT IT?

BECAUSE IT WOULD BE BAD IF HER WOUND S TREATED...

!?

EVIDENCE FOR YOUR CRIME!

OF COURSE THERE IS...

BECAUSE YOU NEVER LEFT THE SCHOOL! HENCE, THE BAND-AIDS SHOULD STILL BE HERE SOMEWHERE.

YOU COULDN'T DISPOSE OFF THE BAND-AIDS...

THOUGH THE PLAN WAS DEVISED CAREFULLY...

NOT JUST THAT, SINCE NOW DDS IS INVOLVED IN THIS INVESTI-GATION...

OUR DETE-CTIVES W LL BE METICU-LOUS...

AND THEY WILL CHECK ANYTH NG AND EVERYTHING.

.....

AND ON THEM, WILL BE YOUR FINGERPRINTS!

BANSOUKOU

20枚入

IF WE ASK THE POLICE TO CONDUCT A SEARCH...

THEY WILL UNDOUBTEDLY FIND A BOX OF UNOPED BAND-AIDS..

AS WELL AS THE ARTIFICIAL BLOODSTAINS ON SISTER KUROKI'S BLOUSE.

TRACES OF THE DRUG IN THE BODY...

THEREFORE, THEY WOULD ALSO FIND...

A MISSING THING?

AHH!

WHICH WOULD SERVE AS THE FINAL PIECE OF EVIDENCE.

BESIDES, THERE IS STILL ONE MORE THING,

THAT IS MISSING FROM THIS ROOM...

IF IT'S TRUE THE NEEDLE WAS ATTACHED TO THE HANGER,

IT SHOULD BE DISPOSED OFF LATER...

IT SHOULD BE STOWED AWAY IN AN INCONSPICUOUS PLACE.

THAT'S CORRCT, TOUYA!

YOU MEAN THE HANGER, RIGHT?

THE HANGER WHICH CONTAINED THE DRUGGED NEEDLE!

ON FIRST GLANCE...

THERE AREN'T ANY UNUSED HANGERS.

BUT AROUND HERE...

TO GET RID OF IT!

SNAP!

AS THE CULPRIT WAITS FOR THE RIGHT TIME...

!!

THERE IT IS...

THE HANGER WHICH HAS THE NEEDLE USED TO DRUG SISTER KUROKI!

HAMAYUU-SAN?

ARE YOU STILL GOING TO DENY IT...

ON TH S HANGER!

SINCE YOU WERE THE ONE WHO STOWED IT HERE, YOUR F NGERPRINTS W LL BE FOUND...

THIS FORCED YOU TO USE THIS SOFA AS A MAKESH FT HIDING PLACE FOR THE HANGER...

OUR ARRIVAL HAD NOT BEEN FACTORED INTO YOUR CALCU-LATIONS...

SINCE YOU HAD NO TIME TO DISPOSE IT PROPERLY.

WHY DID YOU DO IT?

MISAKI...

WHAT SHE DID TO THE MOST IMP-ORTANT PERSON N THE WORLD FOR ME.

I... I COULDN'T FORGIVE HER...

TH'D N..

S-SHE CAUSED MARIA'S DEATH?!

. . . .

WAS KURORAN'S FAVORITE.

MARA...

THAT VAMPIRE KURORAN...

IS THE ONE WHO CAUSED MARIA'S DEATH!

BUT, MARIA REJECTED HER...

AND THEN...

THERE WERE RUMOURS THAT KURORAN WAS TRYING TO FORCE MARIA INTO A RELATION-SHIP WITH HER.

SHE WOULD ALWAYS CALL FOR MARIA.

FORGET CHANGING CLOTHES, FOR EVERY SINGLE DETAIL...

SHE BEGAN TO GET HARASS-MENT..

FROM KURORAN'S SUPPORTERS.

KYYAAAHH!!!

EHHH?!

NO, IT WASN'T LIKE THAT, KAMICHIKA.

SISTER KUROKI WAS THE CULPRIT?!

WAS KURORAN HERSELF!!

THE ONE WHO WAS HARRASING MARIA...

HUH?

SO I DIDN'T KNOW THIS...

AT THAT TIME, I WAS IN THE UK, STUDYING...

SHE WAS A SADISTIC VAMPIRE!

THAT IS RIGHT! SHE WAS NEVER A TEACHER...

AND AT THE END...

FINALLY, IN HER LAST LETTER TO ME, SHE TOLD ME EVERY-THING...

SHE WANTED TO MAKE HER SUFFER.

SINCE SHE COULDN'T HAVE MARIA FOR HER-SELF...

MY LIFE HAS BECOME A LIVING HELL. SISTER KUROKI'S HARASSMENTS ARE GETTING WORSE BY THE DAY. I CANNOT TAKE IT ANYMORE. IF ONLY YOU WERE WITH ME, MISAKI, I WOULD CONTINUE LIVING ON, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENED.

M-MARIA, YOU...

T-THAT'S WHY I SHOULD HAVE BEEN WITH HER, ALWAYS...

M-MARIA... WAS ONLY A CHILD... SHE WAS AS FRAGILE AS GLASS...

BUT SHE WAS ALREADY DEAD, HAVING JUMPED FROM THE ROOF OF THE SCHOOL, WITH A STATUE OF THE VIRGIN MARY IN HER HAND...

I GOT VERY WORRIED, SO I TOOK THE NEXT PLANE TO JAPAN...

I-IT'S ALL MY FAULT...

.....

MARIA...

I AM SO SORRY...

SO IT WAS ALL FOR HER BEST FRIEND, WHO COMMITTED SUICIDE.

... THE MOST IMPORTANT PERSON, YOU SAY...

AND HER REGRET AT NOT BEING ABLE TO PROTECT HER...

WHAT I MEANT WAS THAT I UNDERSTOOD HAMAYUU-SAN'S FEELINGS, WHEN SHE LOST THE MOST IMPORTANT PERSON IN HER LIFE...

I THINK THAT IN THE END, THE PERSON SHE WAS ANGRY AT THE MOST... WAS HERSELF.

WHILE I DID GUESS THE MOTIVE, I DID NOT GUESS SHE WAS IN LOVE WITH HER FRIEND.

ACTUALLY, I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE THE CASE.

N-NO, RYU-SAN, I DON'T SWING THAT WAY!!

T-TOUYA, DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE...

OUR FEELINGS TOWARDS OUR LOVED ONES WILL NEVER CHANGE.

I AGREE. IT DOES NOT MATTER IF IT IS MALE OR FEMALE...

Y-YES!

LET'S GO HOME.

WELL, IT'S GETTING LATE...

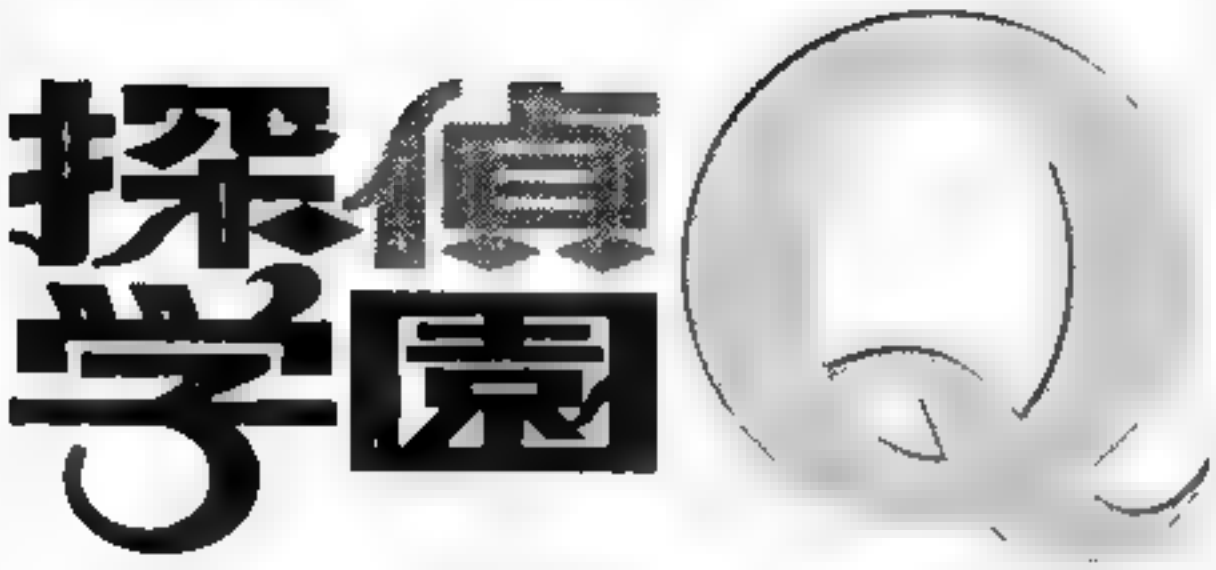
WHAT'S WRONG, TOUYA? YOU LOOK A LITTLE DAZED.

N-NOTHING, I'M FINE!

I'D ACCEPT AT ONCE!

TRUTH IS, IF I WERE APPROACHED BY A GIRL AS BEAUTIFUL AS RYU-SAN ...

SNEAKY TEACHER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THANKS A LOT, AND KEEP SUPPORTING THE SERIES AS YOU ALWAYS HAVE!!!

THANK YOU, SENSEI!

ESPECIALLY AMAKUSA, WHOSE DISGUISE OF A SCHOOLGIRL AS WELL AS A PRINCE WERE EQUALLY TERRIFIC!

AMAKUSA AND TOYA...

CONGRATS ON YOUR SUCESS N SOLVING THE CASE AT HIMEYURI HIGH...

HE TALKS LIKE HE SAW IT HIMSELF.

THOUGH IT WAS A PITY WE COULD NOT PREVENT THE MURDER, YOUR QUICK DEDUCTION DESERVES A LOT OF PRAISE!

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たんていがくえん

CHAPTER 122 : ESCAPE IS IMPOSSIBLE - PART 1

LEAVE IT TO THE DOCTOR!

NOT TO WORRY. WE HAVE SOLVED THAT PROBLEM! DOCTOR DOKURO?

THERE'S BEEN A THREATENING LETTER SENT TO MEMBERS OF A SWIMSUIT PAGEANT. SO YOU NEED TO INFILTRATE THERE AND...

W-WAIT A MINUTE! I'M A GUY, HOW CAN I WEAR A SWIMSUIT?!

HUH?

ALRIGHT, THEN I'LL GIVE YOU YOUR NEXT CASE, AMAKUSA!

WHAT NOW?

ぷるん

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ぷるん

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ぷるん

PUT THIS ON AND YOU'LL HAVE A BODY SIZE OF 90-60-90!!

I NOW PROUDLY PRESENT MY MOST RECENT INVENTION, THE LADY SKINSUIT!

I CALL IT 'SUPER SEXY LINGERIE'!!

DON'T MESS WITH ME!!!

KYAA, RYU-SAN IS ANGRY!

ABSOLUTELY, IT CAME OUT FAR BETTER THAN I EXPECTED!

AKAMUSA, I ACTUALLY THINK YOU'LL WIN THE PAGEANT IF YOU GO IN THIS.

SO, THE IDEA I HAD FOR PARTIES FINALLY CAME INTO USE!

NICE SEA-SHELLS.

D-...

TRY IT ON, THEN!

COME ON...

BUT THAT SEXY... I MEAN SKIN SUIT WAS GOOD, EH?

ESPECIALLY THOSE SEA-SHELLS!

BOAB

SO DON'T TAKE IT SO HARD!

GRR...

COME ON, RYU, YOU CAN'T BE ANGRY FOREVER!

YEAH, YOU KNOW THAT NANAMI-SENSEI WAS ONLY PULLING YOUR LEG!

GRR!

FU FU FU!

-3

-3

DROP THE TOPIC.

WE HAVE MUCH MORE PRESSING THINGS TO WORRY ABOUT

HUH, WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

RYU IN THAT SUIT

B-BUT I'D REALLY LIKE TO SEE YOU IN THAT SUIT.

NO NO, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!

SO YOU GUYS WERE IN ON IT!

YOU TEAMED UP WITH HIM TO BULLY ME?!

?

E-ER, JUST KIDDING.

. . . !!

WE RECENTLY WENT TO THE SPECIAL CELL WHERE CERBERUS WAS BEING HELD, RIGHT?

YEAH, SO?

I THINK I KNOW WHY NANAMI-SENSEI TOOK US THERE.

M-MAKES YOU CURIOUS?

HUH? WHY IS THAT?

IS IT REALLY POSSIBLE THAT A PLUTO SPY IS IN DDS?

WHAT MAKES ME CURIOUS NOW IS...

EHH?! BUT ISN'T THAT A HIGH SECURITY PRISON MADE SPECIALLY FOR PLUTO?!

ESCAPE IS IMPOSSIBLE!

BESIDES, HE HAS BEEN MANACLED AND BLINDFOLDED! HOW CAN HE ESCAPE?!

BECAUSE NANAMI-SENSEI IS PROBABLY OF THE OPINION THAT...

CERBERUS IS GOING TO ESCAPE FROM THERE!

IS THAT SO?

HM? YOU THINK HE CAN?

I MEAN AS A PERSON WHO WANTS TO BECOME A DETECTIVE,

I CANNOT PRESUME THAT HE CAN ESCAPE SINCE I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH NFOR-MATION...

FOR EXAMPLE,

BUT WITH THE LITTLE KNOWLEDGE I DO HAVE...

T-THE "YOU" RIGHT NOW?

THE "ME" RIGHT NOW CANNOT IMAGINE THAT.

HE SHOULD HAVE DONE SOMETHING TO PREVENT IT?

SO YOU'RE SAYING IF HE KNEW CERBERUS WOULD ESCAPE...

HE WOULD HAVE COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT CERBERUS WOULD ESCAPE, RIGHT?

NANAM.- SENSEI S A PRO DETECTIVE, RIGHT?

RYU... ARE YOU...

ARE YOU STILL PISSED ABOUT THAT COSTUME?

SUSPECTING NANAMI-SENSEI OF BEING THE SPY?!

NO!

HUH?!

YES. BUT DID HE?

SO, A GENIUS LIKE HIM ALSO FACES THAT PROBLEM, I SEE.

BUT THAT IS A VERY STUPID REASON TO NOT ESCAPE FROM THERE.

I EXPECT IT IS NO EASY MATTER, ESCAPING FROM THAT HIGH-SECURITY PRISON.

YES, KING HADES. IT LOOKS LIKE CERBERUS IS STILL WAITING FOR THE RIGHT MOMENT.

IT'S BEEN A WEEK SINCE WE RECEIVED WORD FROM CERBERUS.

YOUR OPTIMISM IS PLUTO'S TREASURE.

FU FU FU...

WELL, IT'S OBVIOUS THAT MS. YURIE HAS NOT REVEALED MY IDENTITY...

BUT WE'LL LET HER [illegible] FEAR FOR NOW.

WELL, IF I WASN'T OPTIMISTIC,

I WOULDN'T HAVE DARED TO ACCEPT TO INFILITRAT DDS, KING HADES!

AH, SO IT IS YOU, THANATOS.

BUT HE WILL, YOU CAN TAKE MY WORD FOR IT! HE'S MY TARGET, AFTER ALL!

I NEVER UNDERSTAND WHAT HE CALLS HIS 'JOKES'..

HE IS A SHREWD PERSON...

LET'S SEE IF HE IS WORTHY OF BEING MY 'TARGET'!

THE GATEKEEPER OF HELL HAS SOME ASTONISHING ABILITIES, I'M SURE.

LET IT BE, THEN. LIKE I SAID, HE WILL FIND A WAY...

FU FU FU, DOES IT MATTER AT THE MOMENT?

HE DOES HAVE AN USURPING NATURE, THAT IS FOR SURE.

WHETHER HIS CLAIM THAT HE WILL STEAL CERBERUS' POSITION IS A JOKE OR NOT...

PERHAPS I SHOULD BE CAREFUL AS WELL, FU FU FU.

YOU'D BETTER BE CAREFUL, OR HE WILL STEAL YOUR POSITION AS WELL, SIR CHARON.

HE DOES NOT STEAL WITH THE USE OF TRICKS...

BUT BY KEEPING HIS OWN HANDS CLEAN, THE VERY EMBODIMENT OF PLUTO!

UNDERSTOOD, KING HADES.

ゴオオオ

HARD TO BELIEVE HE GOT HIMSELF CAPTURED, EVEN IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF...

YEAH, OUR PRISONER IS THE FAMED CERBERUS FROM PLUTO, AFTER ALL...

ガラガラ

IT'S DAMN TIRING TO SEND FOOD EVERY-DAY.

AND IT SHOULD BE DOUBLE-CHECKED AS WELL.

HAHA, NOTHING WE CAN DO, EH?

ALL DONE, NAKAMURA!

ガラガラ

THANK YOU!

YEAH, THE OTHER GUARDS SAY HE'S BEEN BEHAVING VERY STRANGELY FOR A COUPLE OF DAYS.

I GET THE SHIVERS EVERY TIME I STEP FOOT IN THERE.

EVEN FOR A MASTER OF HYPNOSIS LIKE HIM, HE'S START HAVING NEURO-SENSORY TROUBLES ANY DAY NOW.

I WONDER WHY YOU BRING ME BREAD EVERY DAY. I FEEL THE NEED TO EAT JAPANESE FOOD EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE...

OH, IS IT BECAUSE I NEED CHOPSTICKS TO EAT IT?

ガラ ガラ ガラ ガラ

AHH...

I SEE MY FOOD IS HERE.

HOW IS HE?

NOTH NG SPECIAL.

DEAR ME, HAVE I BEEN PUT ON SUICIDE WATCH?

.....

PLUS IT HELPS TO KEEP MY MIND AT EASY. SITTING FOR DAYS ON END WITH A BL NDFOLD ON IS HARMFUL FOR THE BRAIN, YOU KNOW.

AND LITTLE BY LITTLE, YOU'LL GET TO KNOW ME BETTER.

OF COURSE I AM TALKING ABOUT MYSELF!

BECAUSE I WANT YOU TO KNOW I AM NOT THE EVIL DEMON YOU'VE BEEN TOLD OF!

AS ALWAYS, HE DOESN'T KNOW WHEN TO SHUT UP.

KEEPS TALKING ABOUT HIMSELF AND NOTH NG ELSE.

COULD YOU RELEASE THESE CUFFS AS I EAT, PLEASE?

ELSE I HAVE TO EAT LIKE A DOG.

SURELY YOU COULD DO ME THAT LUXURY?

DON'T WORRY, I GOT IT.

DON'T BEGIN TO FEEL SORRY FOR HIM..

HE'S A MASTER OF MIND MANIPULATION, EVERYTHING HE SAYS S A TRAP!

COULD I HAVE SOME?

I SEE. FINE, THEN...

I WOULD LIKE SOME EXTRA BREAD, PLEASE.

NO CAN DO...

WE HAVE ORDERS NOT TO REMOVE THE CUFFS OR THE BLIND-FOLD!

BUT DON'T EVEN THINK OF ESCA-PING, YA HEAR?!

THESE KEYS ARE AUTO-MATICALLY LOCKED AND HAVE NO KEYHOLES!

SINCE THIS DOOR HAS NO KEY, IT CAN'T BE OPENED!

I WOULD HATE TO BE LOOKED AT WHEN I AM EATING LIKE A DOG.

I BEG OF YOU, CAN YOU PLEASE NOT LOOK AT ME?

FINE.

WELL,

I'LL HAVE TO GO ASK FIRST.

ALRIGHT THEN.

HERE.

GOK!

PLEASE PUT THE SAUCE BOTTLE...

AH...

I SEE...

BUT I DO NOT HAVE THAT INTENTION...

.....

THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO

巌窟王

ALEXAN DUM

ZZZ

!!

OI OI, WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL, CER- .

UWOOOHHH!!!

DAMN IT ALL!! LET ME OUT OF THESE CUFFS!

DAMN IT DAMN IT DAMN IT!

HUH?

OWAAAH!!

UWAAHH!!

U-UKH...

W-WHAT THE HELL DID YOU...?!

IDIOT!!

T-THESE... CUFFS... SO ANNOYING...

F-FINALLY... I'M FREE...

WHY THE HELL DID YOU DO THAT?!

H-HANG ON!!

I'LL DO SOME FIRST AID!!

!?

DID YOU LIKE THE BOOK I LENT YOU...

KONDO?

ｺﾝﾄﾞｳ

THROUGHOUT THE WEEK, I HAD TO TELL YOU THE STORY SO I COULD GIVE YOU A HYPNOTIC SUGGESTION...

SO WHEN THE TIME CAME, ALL I HAD TO DO S TO LOOK IN YOUR EYES AND I COULD HYPNOTIZE YOU.

PHEW!

IT'S GOOD THAT YOU L STENED TO MY STORY...

I ADMIT I WAS WORRIED THAT THIS WAS SUCH A QUICK HYPNOS S.

THE GUARD'S MENTAL STATE CAN ALSO BE AFFECTED.

YOU SHOULD HAVE KNOWN THAT JUST LIKE THE INMATE...

BUT THAT IS WHERE YOU MADE A M.STAKE.

YOUR CELL IS PRETTY GOOD...

AND IT CAN AFFECT AN NMATE'S MENTAL STATE ..

I'D LOVE TO CHAT, BUT I CAN'T WASTE ANY MORE TIME. .

IN JUST A MOMENT, YOUR FR.END W LL COME BACK WITH THE BREAD.

I KNOW IT'S NOT A GOOD REPLICA, BUT YOU HAVE TO ADMIT I WAS BL NDFOLDED, YOU KNOW.

CRUSH!

HOW DID YOU LIKE MY FAKE HAND?

IT'S REALLY MADE FROM THE BREAD YOU GAVE ME...

WHAT THE... THAT EGOISTIC BASTARD!!

SORRY ABOUT THAT. SHALL I RETURN THE BREAD, THEN?

HE SAID HE WAS SLEEPY AND DROPPED RIGHT OFF. SEE, I EVEN CLEANED HIS PLATE.

AH, YEAH. SORRY, BUT HE SAID HE DIDN'T WANT IT ANYMORE.

HEY KONDO, HERE'S THE BREAD!

SURE WILL!

OKAY, GET BACK SOON.

I'M OFF THEN!

PLEASE WATCH OVER HIM IN MY STEAD.

EXCUSE ME...

MOVE ON.

ガラガラ

ガラ

FINALLY AWAKE, HUH?

UGH...

THOUGHT IT WAS BLOOD.

WHY IS A LOT OF SAUCE DRIPPING FROM HIS WRIST?

WAIT A MINUTE...

HEH, WHAT KIND OF A DEEP SLEEP IS THAT?

HUH?!

NAKAMURA, IS THAT YOU?!

UGH.. T-THIS VOICE...

THE HELL DID YOU ASK FOR BREAD IF YOU WERE GONNA SLEEP, EH?

NAKAMURA!! CERBERUS HAS ESCAPED!!

QUICK, TURN ON THE EMERGENCY ALARM!!!

THIS IS CERBERUS' DOING!!

THIS...

PLEASE, OPEN THIS BANDAGE!!

AND THEN I LOOKED INTO HIS EYES AND FAINTED!!

HE TRICKED ME BY MAKING ME BELIEVE HE CUT OFF HIS OWN HAND...

AND MADE ME OPEN THE CELL...

W-WHAT THE... THE FACE IS CERBERUS...

BUT HE'S TALKING WITH KONDO'S VOICE!?

I AM KONDO, NAKAMURA!

WAIT, DID YOU YOU SAY I HAVE CERBERUS' FACE? DO I LOOK LIKE HIM?!

YEAH! THE FACE I'M LOOKING AT NOW IS..

W-WAIT A MINUTE...

THIS IS A TRICK, RIGHT?

T-THIS... T-THIS IS...

W-WHY DOES MY FACE LOOK LIKE THIS?!

WH... WHY?!

HERE'S A MIRROR!

LOOK!

W-WHAT IS THIS?!

HE HAS REALLY ESCAPED AND IS DISGUISED AS ME!

I AM!!

NAKAMURA, TRUST ME!

YOU... REALLY ARE KONDO?

M-MAYBE IT'S A MASK?!

U-URKH!! IT CAN'T BE TAKEN OFF!!

I-I UNDER-STAND!

IF HE'S NOT STOPPED AT ONCE, THEN...

PLEASE RING THE EMER-GENCY ALARM!!

ウ！

EMERGENCY CODE RED DECLARED!!

ウウ

CERBERUS HAS ES-CAPED! I REPEAT, CERBERUS HAS ES-CAPED!!

HE IS DISGUISED AS WARDEN KONDO!!

GUARDS, ASSUME POSITIONS!!

THIS IS SPECIAL CELL! CERBE-RUS HAS ESCAPED!

I REPEAT! CERBERUS HAS ESCA-PED! THIS IS NOT A DRILL! THIS IS NOT A DRILL!!

PREPARE FOR THE EMERGENCY CODE RED!!

THAT WAS QUICKER THAN I'D EXPECTED

WELL, WELL ..

HEH!

W-WARDEN KONDO P-PLEASE STOP THERE!

HE'S HIM!!

A-AH, HE'S ESCAPED!! SO THAT MEANS...

DAMN IT!! WAIT!!

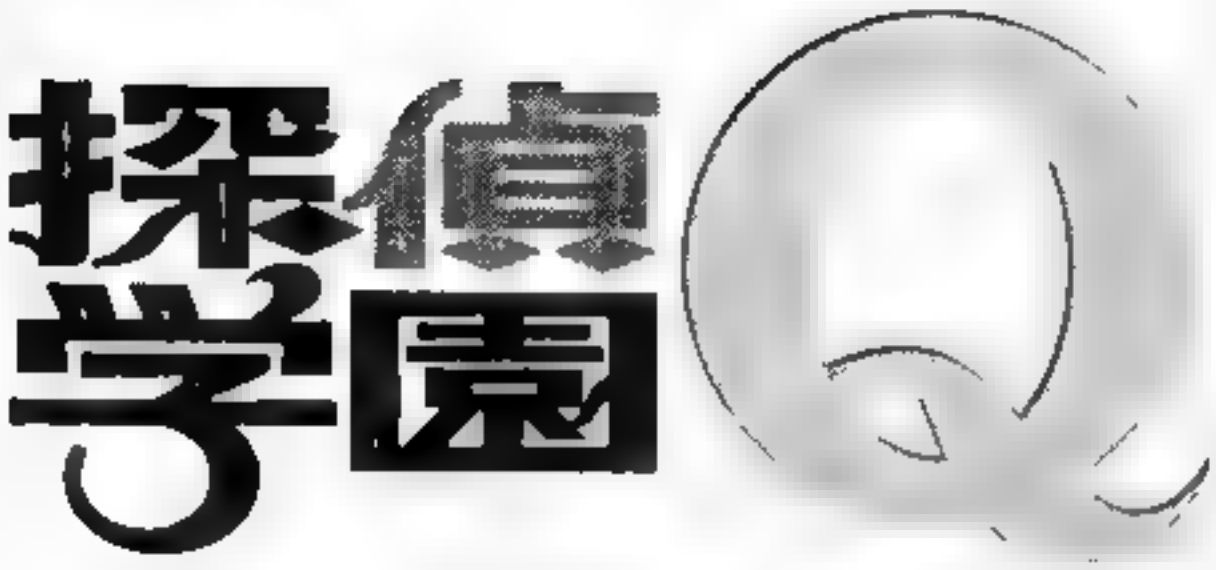
THERE IS NO MISTAKE! HE IS DISGUISED AS WARDEN KONDO!

WE'VE FOUND CERBERUS!

RIGHT NOW, HE'S CLIMBING UP THE STAIRS FROM BASEMENT LEVEL TWO!

YOU'LL NEVER ESCAPE... CERBERUS!!!

KEEP CALM, I'LL HANDLE IT FROM HERE.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HEH!

I AM KONDO!!

CERBERUS ESCAPED FROM HIS CELL BY DISGUISING AS ME!!

IT'S TRUE! CERBERUS IS DISGUISED AS THE WARDEN...

AND HE'S CLIMBING UP THE MAIN STAIRCASE FROM LEVEL TWO!!

WE NEED BACKUP IMMEDIATELY!

AS EXPECTED, HE'S MANAGED TO DO IT,

BUT HE WILL NEVER SUCCED.

CHAPTER 123 : ESCAPE IS IMPOSSIBLE - PART 2

CERBERUS!!!

YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO ESCAPE...

A FACE MASK...

THAT'S WHAT HE'S USED!

W-WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

HE HAD THEM WITH [redacted] WHOLE TIME!

HE DIDN'T RECEIVE HIS TOOLS FROM INSIDE THE CE..., OFFICER...

W-WE'RE TRULY SORRY, DETEC-TIVE NANAMI,

I-IT SEEMS HE'S SOME-HOW RECEIVED HIS DISGUISING TOOLS WHILE STILL INSIDE THE PRISON!

I SUSPECTED IT FROM THE START. DDS HAD MADE AN APPEAL TO MAKE A BODY SEARCH ON HIM, BUT THE COURT REJECTED US ON HUMAN RIGHTS GROUNDS.

ONLY A SMALL AMOUNT IS REQUIRED, SO HE PROBABLY HID IT IN A TOOTH, OR IN A CAVITY!

B-BUT WHERE DID HE HIDE THAT RESIN?!

WHICH IS GLUED TO THE FACE, AND IS DIFFICULT TO TEAR OFF!

AND BY MIXING TOGETHER MANY TYPES OF SUCH RESIN, A HIGHLY DURABLE MASK CAN BE MADE...

IT'S A TECH-NOLOGY BY WHICH A RESIN CAN BE USED TO MAKE A MASK OF VARIOUS SHAPES...

T-TRAP?!

BUT DON'T WORRY. NOT EVEN CERBERUS...

CAN ESCAPE THE SPECIAL TRAP INSIDE THIS PRISON!

THAT IS HOW PLUTO OPERATES!

!?

WITH THE MOUSETRAP MECHANISM AS PER THE ORDERS OF DDS!!

THIS ENTIRE PRISON IS BUILT...

INDEED...

OFFICER YAMAKURA, HAVE YOU GOTTEN OUT OF THE BUILDING ALONE?

EVEN YOU...

M-MOUSETRAP?! WHAT IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?!

AT THE EXIT, EVEN IF YOU OPEN THE FIRST DOOR, THE SECOND DOOR STAYS CLOSED.

BOTH THE ENTRANCE AND THE EXIT HAS TWO DOORS IN A 2X2 GRID...

EXACTLY! BECAUSE WE HAD DESIGNED IT THAT WAY!

WE NEED TO GO IN PAIRS!

EVEN WE, THE POLICE, CAN'T GET OUT OR IN ALONE...

N-NO, NEVER!

A-AHH, SO THAT'S WHY THE ENTRANCE AND EXIT ARE DESIGNED THAT WAY!!

IT'S NORMAL THAT YOU DID NOT NOTICE, FEW PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT IT.

INDEED.

IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW MANY EVER PEOPLE ARE IN ONE SIDE, IF THERE IS NO ONE ON THE OTHER SIDE, THEY CANNOT GET OUT!!

TO OPEN THE SECOND DOOR, SOMEONE FROM THE OUTSIDE HAS TO OPEN IT FOR YOU!

OTHERW SE, YOU WILL BE TRAPPED IN BETWEEN AND CAN'T GET OUT!

WHAT DID YOU SAY?!

BUT HE DIDN'T GO TO THE EXIT DOOR OR THE SIDE DOOR...

HE'LL BE TRAPPED LIKE A MOUSE!

AS LONG AS CERBERUS DOES NOT KNOW OF TH S ..

HE JUST KEPT GOING UP THE STAIRS!!

LIKE YOU SAD, WE THOUGHT HE'D GO TO THE EXIT DOOR AND LAY IN WAIT FOR HIM...

H-HE.. HE...

WHERE IS HE?

A-AHH, DETECTIVE NANAMI!!

THE ROOF?!

THAT'S CRAZY, HE'S GOT NO WAY TO ES-CAPE!!

B-BUT S R...

CERBERUS IS GOING TO THE ROOF?!

W-WHAT THE...

DAMN IT! LET'S HURRY!

!!

WHAT IF HE HAS A HELI-COPTER IN WAITING?!

DAMN IT, IT'S LOCKED!

LET'S SMASH IT OPEN!

HE'S GONE INTO THAT WAREHOUSE!!

SLAM!

HUH?

IT'S A TRAP!!

NO, DON'T DO IT!!

ONE... TWO...

HA HA HA

スチャ

スカ

UWAAHHHH!!

!?

BD

ARGH!

HMM

GET AWAY FROM THE GUARD...

CERBERUS!!

BACK, ALL OF YOU, BACK!!

.....

ESCAPE IS IMPOSSIBLE!!

ARGHH!

DON'T YOU REALIZE IT'S POINTLESS?!

NO.

B-BUT IN SUCH A DESPERATE SITUATION, WHO KNOWS WHAT...

DO NOT WORRY, PLUTO W LL NEVER KILL WITH THEIR OWN HANDS.

H-HE'S TRYING TO BREAK H S NECK!!

DOESN'T HE WANT TO ESCAPE WITH THE HOSTAGE?!

EVEN IF THAT IS THE CASE, THEY WILL NOT KILL...

BUT STILL... I CANNOT UNDERSTAND WHAT HE'S PLANNING.

THAT IS THE LAW THEY ALL ABIDE BY.

WHAT?!

WARDEN KONDO IS AT THE EMERGENCY HEALTH CLINIC AND...!

DETECTIVE NANAMI!! TH S IS BAD!!

FOR THE MOMENT, WE ARE AT AN IMPASSE. CALL FOR BACKUP.

Y-YES!

MY FACE IS BURNING, ARGHHH!!!

SO HOT!! IT'S SO HOT!!

UWWAAHHH!!!!

.....

THE MASK CAN ONLY BE TAKEN OFF WITH A SPECIAL SOLUTION THAT THE INMATE PROBABLY HAS!!

I-I AM AFRAID THERE S NOTHING WE CAN DO NOW...

IT LOOKS LIKE THE INNER S DE OF THE MASK HAS BEEN DABBED WITH SOME KIND OF ACID...

H-HANG IN THERE, KONDO!

IT LOOKS LIKE THE MASK ON WARDEN KONDO'S FACE IS MADE WITH SOME SPECIAL RESIN, WHICH IS CAUSING ADVERSE SIDE-EFFECTS ON H S SKIN!!

AAHH HHHH !!!!!!

BASTARD!!

SO THAT WAS YOUR PLAN FROM THE START.

.....

IN EXCHANGE FOR LETTING YOU GO, IS THAT IT?

YOU'LL GIVE THE SOLUTION TO TAKE OFF THE MASK ON WARDEN KONDO'S FACE...

I'M SURE THE DDS SCIENCE DIVISION CAN DO SOME-THING ABOUT MY FACE!!

PLEASE DON'T LET GO OF AN INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL GO BECAUSE OF THIS!!

GET IN TOUCH WITH THE DDS SCIENCE DIVISION AND TRANSPORT KONDO THERE, RIGHT AWAY!

UNDER-STOOD!

THIS IS NAKAMURA.

OKAY.

HAND OVER THE PHONE TO WARDEN NAKAMURA.

IF YOU'VE GOT THE ANTIDOTE ON YOU, GIVE IT TO US.

WE'LL LET YOU GO...

IN RETURN, TELL US HOW TO GET THE MASK OFF WARDEN KONDO...

.....

LISTEN TO ME, CERBERUS.

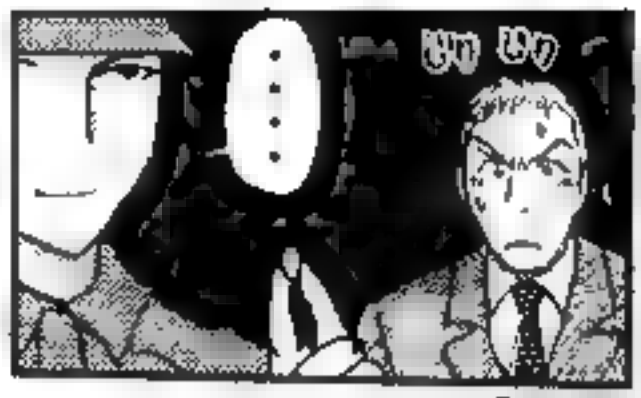
ALRIGHT. I AGREE TO YOUR TERMS.

EHH?!

!

SO ...

HE'S GOT IT WITH HIM.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!?

W-WHAT THE HELL?!
!?
HE JUMPED OVER!!!
huh?

I'M VERY DISAPPOINTED IN YOU...

CERBERUS!

AH!!

HMM.

DID YOU THINK YOU COULD GET AWAY WITH SUCH A FLIMSY LITTLE NEGOTIATION?

I AM CERBERUS...

NOBODY CAN STOP ME... HMM...

C-COULD IT BE?!

CRUNCH!

MY FACE, OHHH, MY FACE!

IT'S HOT, I CAN'T STAND IT!

QUICK, GIVE HIM THE PAIN-KILLER.

RIGHT, GOT IT.

DDS

TAKE HIM TO DDS, ON THE DOUBLE!

AAHH HHHH !!!!!

P-PLEASE TAKE CARE OF HIM!!

THUD

EH?

!?

FOR ALL THAT HASSLE.

GOODBYE.

HEH!

SORRY...

ORPHEUS ...

PLAY THY HARP!!

tap!

WHAT?!

THIS ISN'T CERBERUS!!

WE'VE BEEN HAD!!

THIS WASN'T CERBERUS IN DISGUISE!!

W-WHAT'S GOING ON?

H-HUH? W-WHERE AM I...?

WARDEN KONDO WAS HYPNOTIZED TO THINK HE WAS CERBERUS!!!

S-SO THAT MEANS!

W-WHAT IS THE MEANING OF ALL THIS?!

WAS CERBERUS HIMSELF!!!

YES..

THE PERSON WHO WAS PRETENDING TO BE WARDEN KONDO WITH A MASK OF CERBERUS...

HE MADE US THINK HIS REAL FACE WAS A MASK

KNOWING THAT WE KNEW HE WAS A MASTER OF DISGUISE...

I FAILED TO RECOGNIZE HIS TRICKS.

EVEN AFTER I'D TALKED TO HIM MYSELF...

HE MANAGED TO GO ONE UP ON US

INFORM ALL THE GUARDS IN THE AREA!!

DECLARE AN EMERGENCY!!

!!

WHY HELLO,

NANAMI KOUTARO.

BEEP! BEEP! BEEP!

YES, NANAMI HERE.

!

CERBERUS!!

Y-YOU...

SO, WHAT DID YOU THINK...

OF OUR BATTLE?

LEARN THIS. SOMETIMES, A DISGUISE IS NOT NEEDED TO FOOL SOMEONE,

A SIMPLE PSYCHOLOGICAL SUGGESTION IS JUST AS GOOD.

SEE YOU NEXT CASE.

WITH THIS, I BELIEVE MY DEBT TO YOU HAS BEEN PAID IN FULL.

THEREFORE...

ドッ

カチャ

ス……

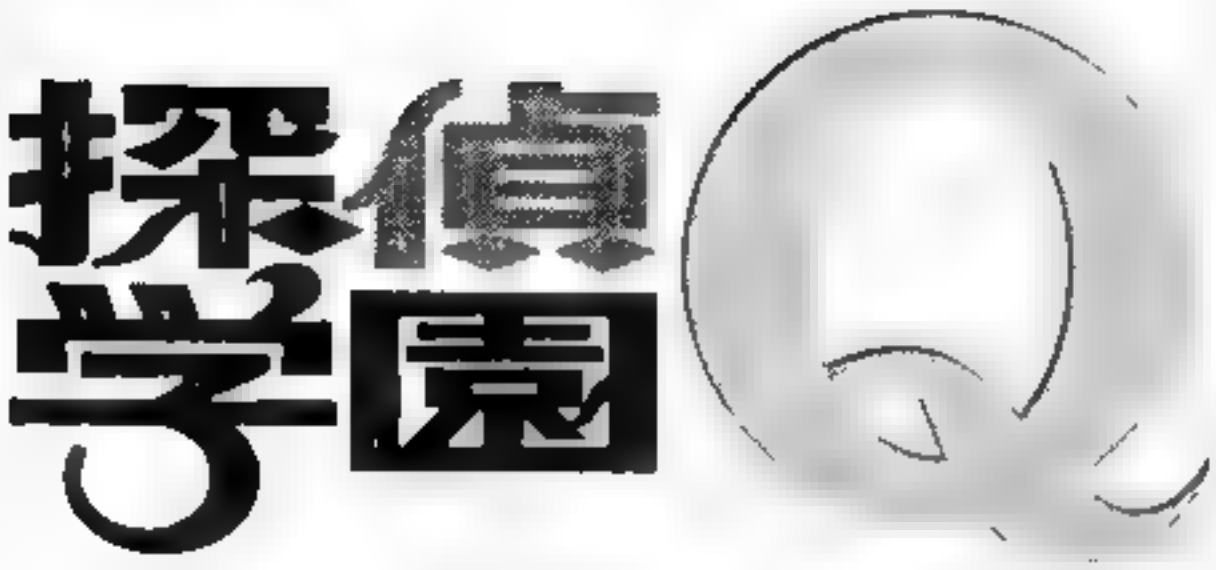
THANK YOU.

TO THINK I HAD TO COME TO PICK YOU UP...

CER-BERUS.

ブロロロロ・・・

ブロロロ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WE'RE LOOKING FOR DEDICATED FANS WHO CAN TRANSLATE DETECTIVE CONAN, KINDAICHI OR TANTEI GAKUEN Q FROM JAPANESE, CHINESE OR INDONESIAN, AS WELL AS PEOPLE WHO CAN CLEAN THE RAWS.

WE ARE ALSO IN DIRE NEED OF TYPESETTERS WHOM WE ARE SHORT OF, SO WE CAN RELEASE YOUR FAVOURITE SERIES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

PLEASE MESSAGE US ON BATOTO AT THE USERNAME THEWATCHFULGENT OR MAIL US AT HIGHSCHOOLDETECTIVE@YAHOO.FR IF YOU ARE INTERESTED. PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD.

THANKS A LOT, AND KEEP SUPPORTING THE SERIES AS YOU ALWAYS HAVE!!!

EHHH?!

CERBERUS ESCAPED FROM THAT HIGH-SECURITY PRISON?!

REALLY, KAZUMA?!

探偵学園Q

CHAPTER 124 : CROSSROADS

CRAP! IF A DANGEROUS CRIMINAL LIKE HIM IS ON THE LOOSE...

WE'RE IN TROUBLE.

N-NO WAY...

IT'S TRUE! MOREOVER, HE ALSO MANAGED TO TRICK NANAMI-SENSEI WHO WAS AT THE SCENE!!

I WAS OVER-CONFIDENT AFTER WE CAUGHT CERBERUS...

AND I FELL INTO HIS PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAP, ALLOW NG HIM TO ESCAPE.

I TAKE FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS FAILURE.

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

I AM TRULY SORRY, DAN-SENSEI.

AND I AM READY TO RECEIVE WHATEVER PUNISHMENT YOU DEEM FIT.

I HAVE TAINED THE REPUTATION OF DDS... NO...

I AM GUILTY OF TAINTING YOUR REPUTATION.

BUT IT IS STILL A FACT THAT YOUR FA LURE HAS ALLOWED A DANGEROUS CRIMINAL TO BE BACK ON THE STREETS.

THERE IS NO NEED FOR ANYTHING E.SE.

THIS FAILURE A.ONE WILL BE YOUR PUNISHMENT.

WHEN THE TIME COMES, I SHALL RE NSTATE YOU MYSELF.

THEREFORE, YOU WILL BE TEMPORARILY TAKEN OFF AS A DDS INVESTI-GATOR...

STICK TO TEACHING THE STUDENTS FOR NOW...

FUUH!

YES, I UNDER-STAND.

NOW GO.

ツカツカツカ

HONGO!

HUH?

grip!

YES...

!

NANAMI?

SO, THIS TIME WAS A FAILURE, HUH...

IT'S PATHETIC, REALLY...

THIS TIME, IT'S ALL ON ME...

WE HAD THE SPECIAL PRISON'S TIGHT SECURITY SYSTEM...

AS WELL AS THE UNBREAKABLE MOUSETRAP SYSTEM.

POLICE DOGS WHICH WERE SPECIALLY TRAINED BY DDS...

.....

HOW COULD I HAVE BEEN SO CARELESS?

BUT BECAUSE OF AN OVER-SIGHT BY ME....

IT WAS ALL FOR NAUGHT.

AND AS AN ORGANIZATION, IT'S IMPORTANT THAT OUR CO-OPERATION WITH THEM CONTINUES...

SO LET ME TELL YOU THIS...

DDS HAS BEEN ABLE TO MAINTAIN A GOOD RAPPORT WITH THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND SEVERAL OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY TRUST US.

SIMPLY PUT, DDS IS MY DREAM, BUILT OVER YEARS OF HARD WORK...

NANAMI, YOU'RE A TOP DETE-CTIVE...

IN DDS CIRCLES, PERHAPS ONLY HONGO IS EQUAL TO YOU IN SKILL.

YOU MAY BE A PART OF AN ORGANIZATION...

BUT NEVER DEPEND ON IT MORE THAN NECESSARY.

BUT YOU MUST NEVER TAKE THEM FOR GRANTED.

AND WHEN IT COMES TO CO-OPERATING WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, IT'S IMPORTANT TO TRUST THEM...

WAS SEEN BY HIM.

THE OVER-CONFIDENCE IN YOU...

I CAN SAY THAT IT WAS BECAUSE HE DID NOT RELY ON HIS ORGANI-SATION, WHEREAS YOU DID.

CERBERUS GOT THE BETTER OF YOU THIS TIME...

IF YOU DO THAT, YOUR FEELING OF COMPLACENCY WILL RISE...

YOU WILL NEVER BECOME A TOP DETECTIVE.

IT'S HUMAN NATURE TO FEEL A SENSE OF DEPENDANCY,

BUT UNLESS YOU THINK AND ACT BASED ON YOUR OWN SKILL...

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT YOU UNDER-STAND THIS, NANAMI.

.....

IT'S PRETTY DEPRESSING, TO BE HONEST.

SINCE DAN-SENSEI ADMONSHED ME...

.....

IT'S BEEN A WHILE...

TO PROTECT THE DREAM THAT DAN-SENSEI BUILT?

...

I WONDER IF I WILL STILL BE TRUSTED...

DON'T WORRY, I WON'T.

AH!

ALL THAT IS WELL AND GOOD,

BUT DON'T SHOW THIS SIDE OF YOU TO THE STUDENTS, NANAM..

HMM.

UKH!

IT'LL BE OKAY. RIGHT...

WELL, AS LONG AS THE GUY OVERHEARING US DOESN'T BLAB...

ぺこ. ぺこ.

T-TERRIBLY SORRY, NANAM,-SENSE!...

I JUST WANTED TO GIVE YOU A REPORT!

YEAH, YEAH, OKAY.

H-... HE..O...

BUSTED!

KYU FROM Q-CLASS?

BUT IN THE FUTURE, YOU MUST BE THE PERSON WHOM OTHERS DEEM TRUSTWORTHY.

SINCE YOU'RE ALL AMATEURS, YOU MUST STILL TRUST AND HELP EACH OTHER..

BUT I WANT TO TELL YOU THIS AS WELL, KYU...

EH?

Q-CLASS!

REMEMBER THAT...

TRUSTWORTHY...?

I'M HOME!

WEL-COME HOME, KYU, RYU.

BYE, MEGU!

SEE YOU TOMORROW, KYU, RYU!

I'M OFF!

ME TOO, I'VE GOT WORK!

A-AH, NOTHING!

WHAT'S WRONG, KYU? YOU AREN'T EATING MUCH.

I BOUGHT IT AT THE NEW CONVENIENCE STORE NEARBY.

IT'S GOOD, HUH?

TODAY'S SPECIAL S NATTO!

CAN I REALLY DO IT?

DETECTIVE-SAN!!

トロ。

IN THE FUTURE, YOU MUST BECOME THE PERSON WHOM OTHERS WILL DEEM TRUSTWORTHY.

AM I REALLY CUT OUT TO BE A DETECTIVE...

LIKE SATORU RENJO WHOM I RESPECT?

BUT WHEN IT COMES TO DOING IT ALONE...

IS IT POSSIBLE?

UNTIL NOW, I'VE ENJOYED SOLVING CASES WITH THE OTHERS AT Q-CLASS...

WE HAVE TRANSLATED SEVERAL BOOKS BY KUZURYU TAKUMI.

YEAH!

THOUGH RYU DID IT ALL.

AND CREATED MANY PIECES OF ART

FROM HIS BOOKS, IT SEEMS HE TRAVELLED TO SEVERAL PLACES...

EXCEPT FOR A PRECIOUS FEW PLACES.

BUT IT NEVER GOES INTO DETAIL ABOUT WHERE HE WENT OR WHAT HE CREATED.

HMM...

LIKE THIS BUILDING...

BUT I HAVE THIS FEELING I'VE SEEN THIS CREATION CALLED THE KUMIKIBAKO* BEFORE...

HUH? WHY IS THAT?

WHAT'S UP, KYU?

NOTHING, I'M JUST CURIOUS.

*T/L NOTE . A SMALL, WOODEN BOX.

INDEED, MAYBE YOU'RE ON TO SOMETHING.

この村では、古くからスゲの
イワスゲを使って、編み袋を作って
この袋は網目が美しく、とても通
受は継がれて、今の

BUT DON'T IWASUGE MUSHROOMS ONLY GROW IN JAPAN?

IT'S WRITTEN HERE THAT THE VILLAGE WHERE KUZURYUU TAKUMI CREATED THE KUMIKIBAKO BOX ALSO SPECIALISED IN MAKING KNITWORK FROM THE IWASUGE MUSHROOM.

I INVESTIGATED MORE...

AND FOUND THAT THE MUSHROOM IS CALLED "J KOBO" ELSEWHERE.

DIFFERENT AREA, DIFFERENT NAME, HUH?

BUT HE HAD NEVER HEARD OF THE MUSHROOM BEFORE. SO I LOOKED IT UP, AND IT TURNS OUT THE MUSHROOM IS CALLED "IKKOBO" OVER THERE.

THIS BOOK DESCRIBES THE MUSHROOM AS HANA IGUCHI, SO I ASKED A LOCAL FROM KARUIZAWA ABOUT IT...

AND IT SEEMS THE IWASUGE IS CALLED BY DIFFERENT NAMES IN DIFFERENT PLACES...

THING IS, I SEARCHED FOR THE MUSHROOM...

GOT IT!!

SO IF WE FIND OUT WHERE IT'S CALLED IWASUGE, WE CAN KNOW WHERE HE WENT!

SO PERHAPS THAT IS WHY WHEN WE SEARCHED FOR "IWASUGE", IT SHOWED THE GENERAL NAME, HANA IGUCHI...

THAT'S RIGHT!

IT WAS ONLY RECENTLY THAT I KNEW IT WAS CALLED A UNIQUE NAME BASED ON WHERE THEY ARE FOUND.

THOUGH I HAVE HEARD OF THIS MUSHROOM BEFORE.

TOMORROW IS A HOLIDAY, SO WHAT DO YOU SAY WE...

THE ARTICLE SAYS, "... IN THE AREAS OF CHICHIBU, THE LOCALS MAKE THEIR LIVING BY KNITTING CLOTHES MADE FROM THE IWASUGE PLANT."

THE CHICHIBU AREA CAN BE EASILY REACHED IF WE TAKE THE EXPRESS FROM IKEBUKURO!

AH...

BUT IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THE KUMIKIBAKO, THEN...

ACTUALLY KYU, I'M INTERESTED IN THE HOTEL BUILT BY KUZURYUU TAKUMI...

WHY DON'T WE MOVE SEPRATELY?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN THE HOTEL, YOU CAN GO INVESTIGATE IT, RYU!

MEANWHILE, I'LL GO CHECK OUT THE KUMIKIBAKO!

2004

IN THAT CASE, I'LL INVESTIGATE THE SE RYUKAN HOTEL.

HUH? SEIRYUKAN IS...?

GOT IT, KYU...

SOMETIMES, IT'S BETTER TO SPLIT UP LIKE THIS!

.....

BUT THIS INEXPLICABLE FEELING OF MYSTERY DRAWS ME TO THE PLACE.

SEIRYUUKAN ...

MEANS "DRAGON'S NEST". NOW, THE PLACE HAS BEEN TURNED INTO A HOTEL...

YES!

OK, IT'S DECIDED, THEN!

THE INVESTIGATION OF KUZURYUU TAKUMI HAS OFFICIALLY BEGUN!!

FROM HERE, WE GO SEPARATE WAYS...

I HOPE YOU WILL FIND SOMETHING INTERESTING THERE, KYU.

YES, SEE YOU LATER, RYU!

ALSO KYU... BE CAREFUL.

HUH?

THE WORKS OF KUZURYUU TAKUMI HAVE THE POWER TO PLAY WITH THE HUMAN MIND...

AND CAUSE DISASTER WHEREVER THEY GO.

NOW I'M NERVOUS

WHY DID HE HAVE TO SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

JUAN MAN

HELLO,

HMM, MAP MAP MAP...

HUH?

CRAP, THIS IN ONLY THE COVER!

WHERE DID THE MAP GO?!

DID IT FALL OFF SOME-WHERE?!

MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE GONE TO SEIRYUKAN WITH H.M.

HA

HA

HA

WALKING UP A MOUNTAIN LIKE THIS,

IS SO TIRING!

AHH, NO...

EH?

YOU MEAN THIS?

ACTUALLY, YES. HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE IWASUGE?

ARE YOU LOST?

!?

THIS IS A KNITTED BAG MADE FROM THE IWASUGE PLANT. WHAT OF IT?

M-MADE FROM THE IWASUGE?!

...

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE KUMIKIBAKO?

ACTUALLY I'M HERE TO SEARCH FOR A CREATION MADE BY A GENIUS CRAFTSMAN...

IT'S EXACTLY AS WRITTEN IN KUZURYUU TAKUMI'S DIARY!!

SO THAT MEANS, AROUND HERE IS...

BUT IF YOU MEAN THE BOX WHICH IS TARGETED BY ALL VISITORS, THEN IT'S IN MY HOUSE.

!

I'M NOT SURE WHAT YOU'RE SEARCHING FOR...

WAAH!

THIS IS...!

WELL, I GUESS IT'S OKAY IF YOU JUST WANT TO TAKE A LOOK.

THANK YOU SO MUCH!!

R-... REALLY?!

C-CAN YOU SHOW ME THE BOX??

PLEASE, I BEG YOU!!

I-IT WON'T FALL, RIGHT?

THE ROPES ARE VINES.

YES, THIS IS THE KAZURA BRIDGE.

HA HA HA

THE BRIDGE IS VERY STRONG.

THAT IS

YOU WON'T FALL...

UNLESS YOU WISH TO COMMIT SUICIDE.

ドキ

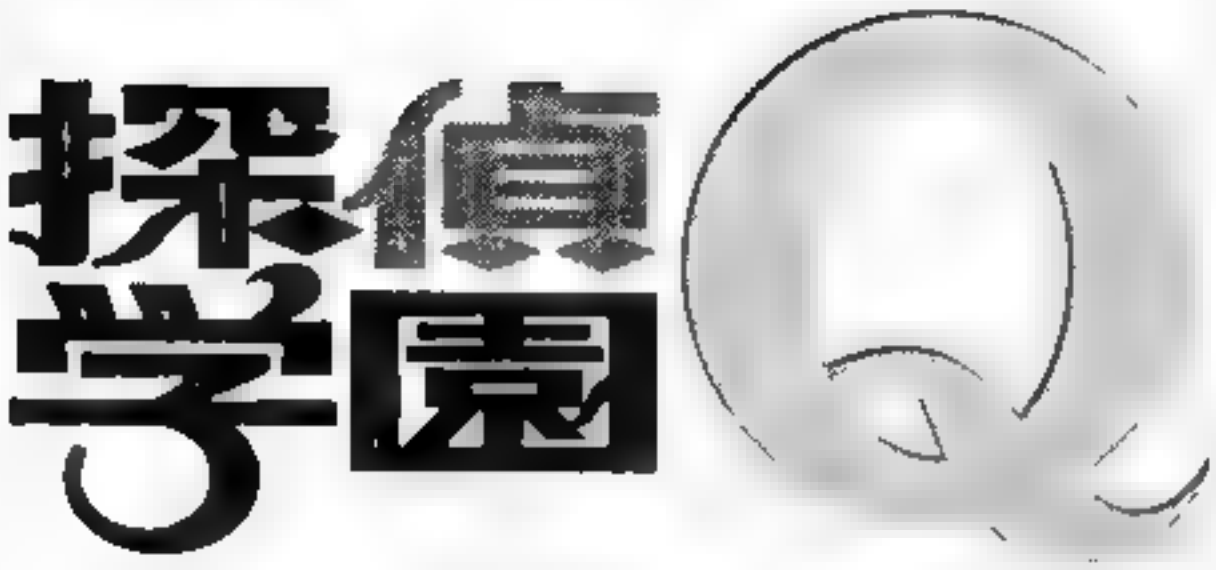
IT'S A GREAT WOODEN BRIDGE!!

WE WILL ARRIVE AT YOZAKURA VILLAGE.

THIS WAY, PLEASE. ONCE WE CROSS THE BRIDGE...

A PECULIAR VILLAGE, HIDDEN DEEP INSIDE A MOUNTAIN, AND CONNECTED TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD BY A SINGLE BRIDGE.

I HAD NO IDEA OF THE IMPENDING TRAGEDY THAT WOULD SOON BEFALL US.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IRREGULAR SCANS CREDITS

RAW SOURCE : PHIESELPHIE
CLEANING : SHERLUPIN
TRANSLATIONS : KASKUS
TYPESETTING : THE WATCHFUL GENT

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D-DOES THAT MEAN THERE ARE NO OTHER PATHS?

I-IT'S NOT THAT... YOU JUST SAID THIS IS THE PATH THAT LEADS TO THE VILLAGE...

WHAT IS THE MATTER?

WHY'VE YOU STOPPED?

探偵学園Q

THIS IS THE ONLY PATH TO YOZAKURA VILLAGE.

YES, THAT IS CORRECT,

CHAPTER 125 : MURDER IN THE VILLAGE OF SUSPENSION BRIDGES - PART I

THERE YOU GO! IT'S FINE, RIGHT? NO NEED TO BE SCARED.

WELL, I'VE FELL OFF A SUSPENSION BRIDGE IN THE PAST, SO...

IS THAT SO? WELL, YOU WON'T LIKE THIS...

HUH?

BUT REST ASSURED, THIS VILLAGE CAN TAKE UPTO 700 KG OF WEIGHT...

OR SO MY GRANDPA SAID.

Y-YES BUT STILL.

SINCE OUR YOZAKURA VILLAGE WAS BUILT BY THE SAMURAI...

THE BRIDGE WAS MADE SO IT COULD BE CUT OFF IN CASE OF AN ATTACK.

THEY'RE SO SMALL THEY CAN ONLY WITHSTAND THE WEIGHT OF THREE ADULTS.

BUT THERE ARE TWO OTHER RAVINES LIKE THIS IN OUR VILLAGE...

BUT THE BRIDGES ACROSS THEM ARE NOT AS LARGE AS THIS ONE...

EH? AZUMA-SAN!

AH, KKUE.

UGH! A VILLAGE FULL OF SUSPENSION BRIDGES?!

EVEN IF THERE IS A FOURTH PERSON, THE BRIDGE WILL SNAP!

EXCUSE ME, ARE YOU A PATROL-MAN?

AND WHO ARE YOU?

AHH, MY NAME IS KYU!

I CAME TO TAKE A LOOK AT THE KUMIKIBAKO BOX MADE BY KUZURYUU TAKUMI!

WELL WELL WELL...

HAVE THE DETECTIVES GONE YET?

YES. SINCE THEY COULDN'T MEET OHTORI-SAMA, THEY DECIDED TO GO BACK FOR THE MOMENT...

WELL, AT LEAST THEY WON'T COME HERE TILL THE CREATION OF "THAT THING" IS FINISHED.

!

A STUDENT OF DDS?

COULD IT BE YOU'RE...

GOING BY YOUR APPEARANCE, YOU ARE ONLY A MIDDLE-SCHOOLER,

BUT YOU'RE NOT AN ORDINARY KID...

ER...

A PATROLMAN IS A KIND OF POLICEMAN WHO KEEPS WATCH OF AN AREA...

BUT IT'S A BIT WEIRD FOR A MODERN KID TO USE SUCH AN OUTDATED WORD.

WHEN I WAS TALKING TO KIKUE, YOU WERE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE "DETECTIVES WHO CAME TO THE VILLAGE" PART...

AFTER WHICH, YOU ASKED ME IF I WAS THE PATROLMAN HERE...

WELL, I SIMPLY DEDUCED IT. YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW?

Y-YES, I DO!!

H-HOW WERE YOU ABLE TO TELL?!

!!

THE DIAL IS TOO BIG FOR YOUR WRIST...

AND THE MOST OBVIOUS WAS YOUR WRIST-WATCH.

LOOKING FOR KUZURYUU TAKUMI'S TREASURE NO LESS!

NOT TO MENTION YOUR VERY PRESENCE, A KID LIKE YOU IN AN OLD VILLAGE LIKE THIS,

BECAUSE I AM A PRIVATE DETECTIVE. MY NAME IS KONOSUKE AZUMA.

私立探偵

東 弘ノ介

T-THAT WAS AMAZING! HOW COULD YOU FIGURE ALL OF THAT OUT SO FAST?!

WHICH MEANS IT IS THE WRISTWATCH THAT DDS STUDENTS HAVE TO WEAR!!

WHICH MEANS IT IS NOT YOU WHO CHOSE TO WEAR IT BUT...

YOU WEAR IT BECAUSE YOU *HAVE* TO!

.....

あっけ..

DDS... YOU MEAN THE ONE RUN BY DAN MORIHIKO ...

YES, DO YOU KNOW IT?

PLEASED TO MEET YOU! MY NAME IS KYU, AND I'M FROM DDS!

AHH, SO YOU ARE A DETECTIVE!!

NOT NOW, KIKUE.

?

AND IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, AZUMA-SAN...

MY NAME IS KIKUE,

KIKUE TSUKIMURA.

WAAH!

WHY DON'T WE TALK AS WE WALK?

YES, I THINK I SHALL.

PLEASE STOP BY THE HOUSE AZUMA-SAN, I'LL MAKE TEA FOR YOU.

GRANDPA, I'M HOME.

HM, AND WHO IS TH S LAD? A FRIEND OF YOURS?

AH, K KUE.

A LOT OF HOUSES OVER HERE ARE BUILT IN THIS STYLE.

YOU TH NK SO?

AH, SO TH S S YOUR HOUSE, K KUE-SAN?

IT'S A BIT OLD-FASHIONED, ISN'T IT?

YEAH, GRAMPS, AS YOU SAY...

I'M NOT THAT INTO THE ARTS...

ESPECIALLY SINCE THAT BOX HAS CAUSED A LOT OF TROUBLE N THE VILLAGE.

IT'S NOT JUST A "BOX"! IT'S MADE BY THE LEGENDARY ARTIST, KUZURYUU TAKUMI!

HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU...

GINZO TSUKIMURA (60)

HEAD OF YOZAKURA VILLAGE

I MET HIM ON THE BRIDGE, AND HE SAID HE WANTED TO SEE THE KUMIKIBAKO.

HELLO, MY NAME IS KYU.

IT'S THE BOX WHICH YOU HAVE, GRANDPA...

THE ONE MADE BY A FAMOUS GUY.

EVEN IN A MOUNTAIN VILLA LIKE THIS?

WHOA ...

THEY PREFER IT HERE.

ONCE THERE WERE UP TO THIRTY ARTISTS WHO STAYED HERE AT A TIME, TALKING AND REVIEWING KUZURYUU-SAN'S MASTERPIECES.

THE PEOPLE WHO LIVED IN THIS HOUSE WERE ON GOOD TERMS WITH KUZURYUU TAKUMI...

AND NOW IT IS KIND OF A HANGOUT FOR PEOPLE INTERESTED IN KUZURYUU TAKUMI'S WORK...

UM, WHAT DOES SHE MEAN?

YOZAKURA VILLAGE HAS ALWAYS BEEN KNOWN AS A GATHERING PLACE FOR ARTISTS...

NO GOOD. HE KEEPS REJECTING IT NO MATTER WHAT I SAY.

WHAT DID OHTORI-SAN SAY?

神木寛隆

ONLY A STUBBORN PERSON LIKE HIM WOULD BE ANNOYING AT A TIME LIKE THIS!

I BELIEVE THE OTHER MEMBERS WHO WERE ALSO PRESENT DURING THE INCIDENT MUST FULFILL THIS REQUEST.

SEE, HE EVEN REJECTED A FORMAL STATEMENT BY THE POLICE TO PROVIDE A WITNESS ACCOUNT!

WELL...

KAMIKIDA-SAN!

HIROSHI KAMIKIDA (30)

ARTS TRADER

WELL, WELL, WELL...

ANOTHER PLAYER TO JOIN THE FRAY, I SEE...

UM, WHO ARE YOU?

HE'S FROM DDS, HERE TO SEE THE KUM.KIBAKO.

EXCUSE ME, BUT MAY I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT?

IT'S MAKING ME VERY CURIOUS!

HEY KIDDO, I'M MICHIKO ANDRSON, A COMPOSER.

AH,H HELLO.

WHAT A SIZE!

I'M SORRY, I DIDN'T MEAN IT IN A BAD WAY, BUT YOU HAVE TO AGREE...

INHARMO-NIOUS MUSIC IS NOT VERY ALLURING, IS IT?

THOUGH IT DOES HAVE ITS USES...

IT REALLY IS VERY INHARMO-NIOUS.

ANDERSON-SAN!

MICHIKO ANDERSON (28)

COMPOSER

I'VE GOT A FEELING I GOT THE SHORT END OF THE STICK HERE

THIS LOOKS L KE A VILLAGE THAT IS SERIOUS ABOUT ITS ART..

A-AHH, YES...

AND YOU'VE COME INTO THE VILLAGE AS ONE SUCH PIECE,

PERHAPS YOU'LL INSPIRE ME TO COMPOSE SOMETHING GOOD!

MAY I ACCOMPANY YOU AS WELL?

THIS WAY PLEASE, KYU-KUN.

YES,

GRANDPA?

KYU-SAN, YOU WANT TO SEE THE KUMIKIBAKO RIGHT?

YES, PLEASE!

?

YES, I DO...

BUT THAT DOES NOT MATTER NOW.

THE REASON I CAME HERE SOME YEARS AGO...

I BELIEVE YOU REMEMBER...

I WAS ASSIGNED TO INVESTIGATE THIS OBJECT, GINZO-SAN.

!

HERE YOU GO!

SENRINRYUU!

THIS IS THE KUMIKIBAKO BOX CREATED BY KUZURYUU TAKUMI...

IT IS PERFECT, ISN'T IT?

THE BLACK COLOURED SECTIONS ARE SEALED, WHILE A MOTIF OF CHERRY BLOSSOMS IS PLACED ON THE WHITE SECTIONS.

MAY I TOUCH IT?

SURE, GO ON. CAREFUL, THOUGH.

THIS IS THE FAMED BOX...

SO...

BUT THE TRUTH IS, NOBODY HAS EVER SEEN THE INSIDE OF THE BOX.

IS THAT SO?!

EXACTLY! IT IS A ***BOX***, AFTER ALL!

I THINK THERE IS SOMETHING INSIDE.

WHA...

MINIATURE LOCKED ROOM?!

BECAUSE KUZURYUU TAKUMI HAS DESIGNED IT LIKE A MINIATURE LOCKED ROOM!

NOT EVEN A SINGLE PERSON HAS BEEN ABLE TO OPEN THE SENRINRYUU...

HAHA, IF IT WOULD OPEN THAT EASILY, THERE'D BE NO NEED FOR A DETECTIVE LIKE ME!

IT'S USELESS, IT DOESN'T OPEN AT ALL!

A BIT OF THIS ...

ｶﾁｬ

ｶﾁｬ

ｺﾄ

HUH?

ｶﾁｬ

OKAY, THEN!!

I'M GOING TO TRY!

ｶﾁ

WELL, THERE IS A BIGGER MYSTERY THAN THIS BOX AT PRESENT, THOUGH.

WHAT MYSTERY?

BUT IT APPEARS MY SKILL WAS NOT ENOUGH.

I'VE VISITED THIS VILLAGE MANY TIMES TO OPEN IT MYSELF...

SEVERAL PEOPLE HAVE COME HERE TO OPEN IT, BUT NONE HAVE SUCCEEDED.

A MURDER CASE!

CALM DOWN! I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU, IT CAN TAKE THE WEIGHT OF THREE ADULTS.

COMPARED TO THE OTHER BRIDGE, THIS LOOKS LIKE IT CAN ONLY TAKE 100 KILOS!

WILL WE BE SAFE, KIKUE-SAN?!

SO THERE WONT BE A PROBLEM WITH JUST TWO KIDS AND AN ADULT.

YES, DETEC-TIVE-SAN...

I... I ALMOST DIED!

HURRY UP, KYU-SAN!

BUT...

KANO-SAN, ARE YOU ALSO GOING TO OHTORI-SAN'S PLACE?

YOU'RE TOO SLOW, KID. HURRY UP NOW!

UWAAHH!!

W-WHO IS THAT GUY?

ISSEI KANO, AN ARTIST...

THEY SAY HE'S A GENIUS...

BUT HE'S JUST A WEIRDO!

THE MOTIF OVER THERE IS VERY NICE, SO I THINK I'LL MAKE A NEW SKETCH!

SKE

I'M PLANNING ON MAKING A SKETCH THERE!

ISSEI KANO (19)

JAPANESE ARTIST

BUT TO ME, THEY ARE THE KEY TO THE UNSEEN, ANOTHER WORLD FROM OURS...

THEY ARE THE PATH TO LET GO OF THE NEGATIVE ENERGY WHICH LINGERS ON THE CRIME SCENE...

AND THAT IS WHY OHTORI-OSSAN...

I UNDER-STAND...

TO YOU, IT MAY NOT LOOK ANY DIFF-ERENT. .

YOU ARTISTS AND YOUR TALK.

A NEW SKETCH BASED ON THE MOTIF, HUH?

THE VIEW FROM ALL THE COTTAGES ARE THE SAME ..

WHY GO THERE SPEC.-FICALLY?

FU FU FU...

TO FINISH HIS CREATION WHICH WILL BE THE ONLY ONE OF ITS KIND IN THE ENTIRE WORLD!

HAS BEEN COOPED UP IN UNLUCKY COTTAGE #13 FOR OVER A YEAR NOW...

13

THE PLACE IS NOW RENTED TO THE FAMOUS SCULPTOR, GENMYO OHTORI, WHO ONLY ALLOWS KIKUE TO ENTER AND GIVE HIM HIS MEALS.

THE OTHER PEOPLE WHO ARE CONNECTED TO THE MURDER ARE NOT ALLOWED AT ALL.

EXACTLY. THAT'S THE SCENE OF THE CRIME OF A MURDER WHICH TOOK PLACE LAST YEAR!

UNLUCKY COTTAGE NUMBER THIRTEEN?

THAT IS NORMAL FOR HIM.

EH?

H-HE HASN'T TALKED TO ANYONE FOR A YEAR?!

INDEED. IN FACT, HE HAS NOT BEEN SEEN FOR A YEAR.

S-SO HE STAYS ALONE IN THAT OLD COTTAGE?! AND SO CALMLY?!

BEFORE I GO THERE TO DELIVER HIS MEALS, I HAVE TO ASK FOR HIS PERMISSION VIA THE INTER-COM FIRST...

TO MAKE IT EASIER, WE USE MORSE CODE FOR COMMUNICATION.

HIS VOICE?

HE HAS LOST HIS VOICE.

EVER SINCE HIS VOCAL CORD SURGERY,

THAT'S RIGHT, IT WAS MY TEACHER...

シュッ シュッ

THEN WHO WAS THE VICTIM OF THE MURDER?

MY TEACHER.

SOSHO HIBIYA, A JAPANESE ARTIST.

EH?

WHEN THE BODY WAS FOUND, THE PAINTING WAS MISSING, SO IT WAS SUSPECTED TO BE A CASE OF THEFT GONE WRONG.

MY TEACHER HAD BEEN WORKING ON HIS MASTER-PIECE...

HE HAD BEEN STAYING IN THAT COTTAGE, JUST LIKE OHTORI-SAN IS NOW ..

DO NOT DISTURB ME UNTILL I FINISH MY CREATION.

THE IDENTITY OF THE MURDERER WILL BE REVEALED THROUGH MY FINISHED WORK.

...

DID YOU SEE THE MURDERER?!

I SAW THE MURDERER.

WHO WAS IT?!

GENMYO OHTORI (68)

SCULPTOR

W-WHAT IS THAT?! IS THIS TRUE, OHTORI-SAN?!

H-HE WOULD PUT THE IDENTITY OF THE CULPRIT ON HIS CREATION?!

IT'S BAD LUCK...

DO NOT DISTURB ME UNTILL I FINISH MY CREATION.

THE IDENTITY OF THE MURDERER WILL BE REVEALED THROUGH MY FINISHED WORK.

EXACTLY!

!

THE COMPOSER AND KAMIKIDA-SAN AS WELL!

I COULD HAVE CREATED A MASTERPIECE NEVER SEEN BEFORE IN THIS WORLD!

IF ONLY I HAD SEEN THE CRIME...

I WOULD HAVE COMPOSED A TUNE THAT WOULD HAVE BROUGHT OUT THE MADNESS OF THE MURDER!

I UNDERSTAND YOUR FEELINGS. IF I COULD HAVE SEEN THE MURDER...

WHAT IF YOU ARE NOT A TRADER, BUT THE CULPRIT?

EH?!

BUT I DO KNOW I WILL NOT LET ANYONE BUY OHTORI SAN'S LATEST CREATION!

?

WELL, I'M JUST A TRADER OF ARTS, I DO NOT UNDER-STAND MUSIC THAT MUCH...

BUT TRUTH IS, EVERYONE HERE HAS A MOTIVE FOR THE MURDER, RIGHT?

AH, I SEE I'M STILL BEING ACCUSED.

ISN'T THAT RIGHT?

IT COULD BE THAT YOU'RE TRYING TO BUY THE SCULPTURE BECAUSE YOU'RE AFRAID IT WILL OUT YOUR IDENTITY AS THE CULPRIT ...

BECAUSE HIBIYA KEPT ASKING GINZO-SAN TO GET RID OF HIM!

EVEN OUR FRIENDLY DETECTIVE LOATHED HIBIYA-SAN...

.....

BECAUSE HE OFTEN PLAGIARIZED YOUR WORKS.

KANO-SAN, YOU HATED HIM...

BECAUSE HE HAD INSULTED YOUR MUSIC?

MICHIKO-SAN, DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU WANTED TO KILL HIBIYA-SAN...

.....

H-...HOW DARE YOU!

WHA!

KAMIKIDA-SAN, YOU RESENTED HIBIYA-SAN AS THERE WERE BUSINESS ISSUES BETWEEN YOU, ISN'T THAT RIGHT?

WHAT SORT OF DETECTIVE WOULD I BE?

HMPH, IF I WERE TO GET ANGRY JUST BECAUSE SOMEONE SPOKE BEHIND MY BACK...

AND WE'LL SEE THE IDENTITY OF THE KILLER THEN...

I SEE.

ANYWAY, HIS WORK W'LL BE DONE IN A WEEK...

TO PROTECT HIM FROM THE K LLER OF LAST YEAR'S CASE!

ANYWAY, I'M HERE NOW AS I WAS ASKED BY OHTORI-SAN...

WON'T WE, MY FELLOW ACCUSED?

WHAT DO I DO?!

WHAT...

AND I'M ALL ALONE HERE!

thump!

I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT I HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS...

thump!

MAYBE IT'S NOT TOO LATE?

ヒタ。

HOLD ON!

I SHOULD HAVE ASKED RYU TO COME WITH ME!!

もーれつに後悔

WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN?!

OKAY! THEN I'LL QUICKLY GO TAKE SOME PHOTOS OF THE SENRINRYUU!

EH? UM, YES, OK.

KIKUE-SAN! I HAVE TO GO BACK TO TOKYO TODAY! BUT CAN I COME BACK WITH MY FRIENDS TOMORROW?

THAT'S RIGHT, I CAN COME BACK TOMORROW WITH THE OTHERS!

!?

!?

!?

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FALL!

FALL!

FALL!

FALL!

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ドカーン

AND WITH THAT...

HA

HA

NOBODY WILL GET AWAY!

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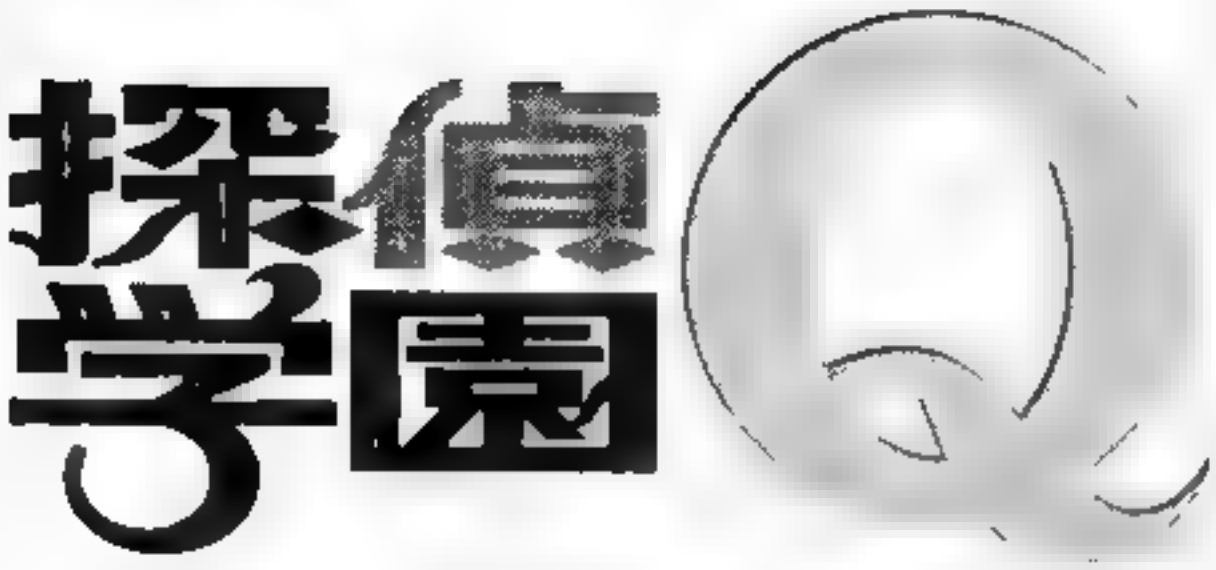
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IRREGULAR SCANS CREDITS

RAW SOURCE : PHIESELPHIE
CLEANING : PANCAKEREAPER
TRANSLATIONS : KASKUS
TYPESETTING : THE WATCHFUL GENT

HELLO, IRREGULAR SCANS HERE!!

WE'RE LOOKING FOR DEDICATED FANS WHO CAN TRANSLATE DETECTIVE CONAN, KINDAICHI OR TANTEI GAKUEN Q FROM JAPANESE, CHINESE OR INDONESIAN, AS WELL AS PEOPLE WHO CAN CLEAN THE RAWS.

WE ARE ALSO IN DIRE NEED OF TYPESETTERS WHOM WE ARE SHORT OF, SO WE CAN RELEASE YOUR FAVOURITE SERIES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

PLEASE MESSAGE US ON BATOTO AT THE USERNAME THEWATCHFULGENT OR MAIL US AT HIGHSCHOOLDETECTIVE@YAHOO.FR IF YOU ARE INTERESTED. PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD.

THANKS A LOT, AND KEEP SUPPORTING THE SERIES AS YOU ALWAYS HAVE!!!

NOBODY WILL GET AWAY!!

AND WITH THAT...

CHAPTER 126 : MURDER IN THE VILLAGE OF SUSPENSION BRIDGES - PART 2

WHIRR CLICK!

WHIRR CLICK!

WHIRR CLICK!

たんていがくえん

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AHH, GINZO-OSSAN...

ひぁい？

SO, HAVE YOU FOUND ANYTHING ABOUT THE SENRIN-RYUU... DETE-CTIVE-KUN?

SORRY, BUT NOT YET...

BUT ONE OF MY FRIENDS AT DDS IS AN EXPERT AT THIS, I'LL COME BACK WITH HIM SOON!

HMM...

I THINK I'VE GOT ALL OF IT NOW.

—3

KYU?

DO YOU ALWAYS DEPEND ON YOUR FRIENDS AT THE SLIGHTEST HINT OF A PROBLEM...

I JUST DON'T WANT TO HOG A CASE RELATED TO KUZURYUU TAKUMI ALL BY MYSELF.

はははは

I-IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!

HUH?

AZUMA-SAN!

IF I WERE IN YOUR PLACE, I'D BELIEVE IN MYSELF MORE.

夫龍之為蟲也
可柔狎而騎也
然其喉下有逆鱗徑尺
若人有嬰之者
則必殺人

W-WHAT IS THIS...

THERE ARE A LOT OF KANJI ON THE BACK, WHICH I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE!

OH, THOSE ARE ACTUALLY CHINESE CHARACTERS...

CONFUCIUS, KYU.

CONFU...

IT'S A WISE SAYING BY THE GENIUS, CONFUCIUS!

THE WRITING SAYS - 'WHEN A DRAGON IS DOCILE, EVEN A HUMAN CAN RIDE ON ITS BACK...

BUT WHEN ITS FURY IS AROUSED,

WE ARE ALL BUT VICTIMS.'

AND HIS SAYINGS ARE WORLD-FAMOUS.

CONFUCIUS WAS A GREAT CHINESE TEACHER AND SCHOLAR...

K-KIKUE-SAN!

THE FURY...

OF THE DRAGON?

YES, I'D READ ABOUT IT WHEN I WAS OUNG

BUT YOU SURE KNOW A LOT!

WOW! YOU SAID YOU WEREN'T INTERES-TED IN THIS...

AND IT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF A DRAGON!

YES THE LEGENDS SAY...

ALL DRAGONS HAVE A SCALE THAT GROWS BACK-WARDS INSIDE ITS THROAT, CALLED THE GEKIRIN.

KAZURA-BRIDGE!!

T-THE BRIDGE...

HM? WHAT IS IT, KAMIKIDA-SAN?

GINZO-SAN!! IT'S VERY BAD!!

T-THE BRIDGE HAS BEEN SEVERED?!

!?

T-THIS IS

W-WHAT IF BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO US?!

REMAIN CALM.

ANDERSON-SAN!

HOLD ON.

THE IDENTITY OF THE MURDERER FROM A YEAR AGO WILL BE OUTED SOON, RIGHT?

THE ENDS ARE FRAYED! SOMEONE HAS CUT IT DELI-BERATELY!

NO WAY! BUT WHY?!

GINZO-SAN...

THAT'S RIGHT...

EH?!

KANO-SAN!

AFTER WE SOLVED A CASE.

AZUMA-KUN AND I, WE WERE ACQUAINTED.

NOT TO MENTION GINZO-SAN WITH AMAZING OBSERVATIONAL SKILLS.

WE HAVE WITH US DETECTIVE AZUMA AND THE KID FROM THE DETECTIVE SCHOOL,

EVEN IF THE BRIDGE BEING CUT DOWN IS RELATED TO THAT...

HERE WE ARE, PERFORMERS WHO HAVE GATHERED ON THE STAGE...

WAITING FOR THE BELL TO RING, SO THE SHOW CAN BEGIN, FU FU FU.

.....

OR TO KEEP US FROM GETTING OUT?

THE PERSON WHO SEVERED KAZURA BRIDGE, DID THEY DO IT TO KEEP OUTSIDERS FROM GETTING IN...

THE SUSPECTS OF THE MURDER FROM ONE YEAR AGO ARE ALL GATHERED IN THE VILLAGE WITH NO MEANS OF ESCAPE...

I CAN ONLY WONDER...

HOW ON EARTH COULD THIS HAPPEN?

THE VILLAGE WILL BE ISOLATED FOR THE NEXT TWO DAYS, THEN.

I'VE ASKED FOR A CRANE TO SET THE TEMPO-RARY BRIDGE,

BUT IT WILL TAKE THEM A DAY TO GET THE CRANE TO THE TOP,

AND ONE MORE DAY TO SET THE BRIDGE.

AH, THE INTER-PHONE,

KIKLE!

YES!

!!

OHMORI-SAN?

TAP TAP TAP!

YES, THE TSUKI-MURA HOUSE.

CAN'T SPEAK AND DOESN'T SHOW HIS FACE...

EVER SINCE HE LOST HIS VOICE, OHTORI-SAN HAS BEEN COMMUNICATING THROUGH TAPS.

YES,

AZUMA-SAN, IS THAT...

SO SHE HAS NEVER BEEN A SUSPECT SINCE THE START.

BECAUSE SHE WASN'T IN THE VILLAGE WHEN THE MURDER TOOK PLACE.

YES, I UNDER-STAND.

THE ONLY PERSON WHO IS ALLOWED TO VISIT HIM AND TAKE HIS MEALS IS KIKUE-SAN...

OHTORI-SAN!!

MY NAME IS KYU, AND I'VE JUST COME TO THE VILLAGE TODAY!

HAVE YOU HEARD OF DDS?

YES, IN THAT CASE, I'LL BRING IT IMME-DIATELY.

WAIT, KIKUE-SAN!

TWO TAPS IS YES, THREE IS NO.

HE SAYS YES.

WHAT WAS THAT?

TAP TAP!

I HAVE AN IDEA!

I UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU WOULD WANT TO ASK HIM, BUT WE SHOULD TALK ABOUT IT FIRST.

HUH?

KYU!

AH, I SEE! IN THAT CASE, I HAVE A REQUEST.

THANK YOU.

TAP TAP!

MAY I TALK TO YOU OVER THE INTER-PHONE SOME OTHER TIME, SIR?

.....

IS THIS ALRIGHT?

YES.

I'M HERE TO DELIVER

NO...

NOT YET.

Has the boy from DDS solved the mystery of the Senrinyuu?

UNDER-STOOD.

HA

HA

Then we shall proceed as usual.

HA

HA

HA

HA

HA

……

はあ

……

BUT THERE'S ONLY ONE LIGHT BULB HERE, SO IT WON'T BE TOO BRIGHT. ALL THAT'S ONLY TILL THE SUN RISES, THOUGH!

IT'S GOT A BATHROOM AND THE KITCHEN HAS A STOVE...

BUT THE ROAD IS DARK AND ALL THE COTTAGES LOOK THE SAME, SO DON'T GET LOST!

OK!

HERE WE ARE, KYU! COTTAGE #12 IS WHERE YOU WILL SPEND THE NIGHT!

12 番

SO JUST REMEMBER THE NUMBER.

BUT IT'S ABOUT 200 METRES AWAY.

YES, YOU CAN'T SEE IT FROM HERE,

IS CLOSE TO THE COTTAGE #13 WHERE THE MURDER TOOK PLACE, RIGHT?

AZUMA-SAN, THIS COTTAGE NUMBER TWELVE,

DOES IT MEAN THE MURDERER IS AMONG THEM?

THEN WHY HAS HE INVITED THE PEOPLE WHO WERE PRESENT LAST YEAR NOW?

OHTORI-SAN HAS CLEARLY SEEN THE KILLER.

AND HE STATED THAT HE PLANNED TO REVEAL IT THROUGH HIS ART.

YES, THAT'S RIGHT.

THEN MAY I ASK YOU SOME-THING?

WHAT IS IT, KYU?

THEN WHY...

PERHAPS HE WANTED TO FELL THE THRILL...

SURELY, HE DOESN'T WANT TO BE KILLED.

AND ALSO NSTALLED BULLET-PROOF GLASS BEFORE HE CALLED US HERE.

BECAUSE THE PROOF IS THAT HE USES A DOUBLE LOCK ON THE DOOR, NAILED THE WINDOWS SHUT...

THAT'S TRUE...

THEN IT'S POSSIBLE THAT THE KILLER WOULD TRY TO KILL OHTORI-SAN BEFORE THE REVEAL!

PERHAPS HE WANTED TO FEEL THE FEAR OF BEING CLOSE TO THE KILLER!

TO COMPLETE HIS MASTERPIECE!

PERHAPS HE WANTED TO EXPERIENCE IT AGAIN, AND USE IT TO DRIVE HIM...

THE FEELING OF FEAR MUST HAVE COME AND GONE IN A FLASH...

WHEN HE SAW THE KILLER...

IF MY INTUITION AS A DETECTIVE IS CORRECT...

THE MURDERER WILL NOT LET OHTORI-SAN EXPOSE THE R IDENTITY...

BUT HE WOULD NOT HEAR OF IT

WHEN I WAS ASKED TO GUARD HIM, I TRIED TO REASON WITH HIM MYSELF...

T-THAT'S CRAZY! TO RISK HIS LIFE...

HE'S MAD!

AN ARTIST IS A PERSON WHO DOES EXTRA-ORD NARY THINGS IN SPITE OF THE CIRCUM-STANCES, RIGHT?

I TOLD YOU TO ASK HIM ABOUT COTTAGE NUMBER THIRTEEN.

AND THAT IS WHY, KYU...

AND A SECOND CASE IS ON THE CARDS!!

T-THEN...

EVEN IF WE CAN'T GET OHTOR.-SAN TO SAY IT, WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO FIGURE OUT WHO THE KILLER IS BY OBSERVING THE SCULPTURE!

THAT IS WHERE THE SCULPTURE THAT W LL REVEAL THE MURDERER IS BE NG KEPT...

I UNDER-STAND.

SO KYU...

SO THERE IS A CHANCE HE MIGHT ALLOW YOU TO GO IN

EVEN IF YOU'RE A DETECTIVE FROM DDS, APART FROM YOUR INTEREST IN THE CASE, YOU'VE NO OTHER CONNECTION TO IT!

ALTHOUGH OHTORI-SAN NEVER ALLOWS THE PEOPLE WHO ARE CONNECTED TO THE CASE TO ENTER...

HE STILL ALLOWS THE POLICE TO ENTER AND LEAVE.

A-RIGHT THEN!

CONTACT HIM WITH THE INTER-PHONE F RST!

GOT IT!

beep!

ピー ポー

1 2 5 6 9 13 17

I WILL GO!

AS A MEMBER OF DDS, I'LL DO WHATEVER I CAN TO STOP THEM!

IF THE KILLER REALLY IS AFTER OHTORI-SAN'S LIFE,

IS THIS ANY USE?

THERE'S NO ANSWER...

PLEASE, I WILL NOT TAKE UP MUCH OF YOUR TIME, IT IS VERY IMPORTANT!

PLEASE SIR, MAY I COME OVER? I WISH TO SPEAK WITH YOU!

HELLO SIR, THIS IS KYU, I SPOKE TO YOU BEFORE,

gasp!

TO BE VERY PRECISE, IT DEALS WITH HOW TO OPEN IT AND WHAT IS INSIDE!

THIS IS ABOUT THE SENRINYUU!

THERE IS NO POINT IN DOING THIS IF HE WON'T ANSWER.

I-I GUESS..

は？

WAIT A MINUTE!

!!

tap tap!

WHEN I KNOCK THRICE!!

I WILL COME ALONE, SO PLEASE ONLY OPEN THE DOOR.

tap tap!

HE AGREED! OKAY, I'LL BE RIGHT OVER!

IT MIGHT BE A BIT HARD FOR YOU TO SEE WHEN YOU CROSS THE BRIDGE...

AND IT WILL BE WET FROM THE RAIN, SO BE CAREFUL!

TO REACH COTTAGE #13, TAKE THE PLANK THAT THAT LEADS TO THE LEFT...

THE GROUND IS VERY DAMP, SO MAKE SURE NOT TO STRAY.

OKAY, I'M LEAVING!

TAKE THIS FLASHLIGHT! IT'S VERY DARK OUT.

A A-B

12

.....

GOT IT!!

OKAY...

HA

HA

.....

UWAAHHH!

GOTTA RUN FASTER!

WOAH!

IT'S SO DARK!

IT WAS MUCH EASIER TO CROSS THE BRIDGE IN THE RAIN!

IT'S NOT JUST DARK,

IT'S WET FROM THE RAIN AS WELL!

UNLUCKY COTTAGE NUMBER THIRTEEN.

AHH, IS THAT IT?

THE LIGHTS ARE ON...

はぁ

はぁ

13番

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK!

OKAY, LET'S TRY AGAIN!

HMM, HE'S NOT ANSWER-ING...

13番

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK!

OPEN THE DOOR!!

OHTORI-SAAN!!!

IT'S ME, KYU!!!

RIGHT.

DAMN, IT'S N VA N. NO ANSWER AT ALL!

WHAT DO I DO?

DID HE CHANGE HIS MIND?

MAYBE I TOOK TOO MUCH TIME ON THE BRIDGE AND HE GAVE UP WAITING?

THE DOOR IS LOCKED FROM THE INSIDE.

THE BLINDS ARE DRAWN, SO I CAN'T LOOK INSIDE.

NO GOOD

キィ…

キィ…

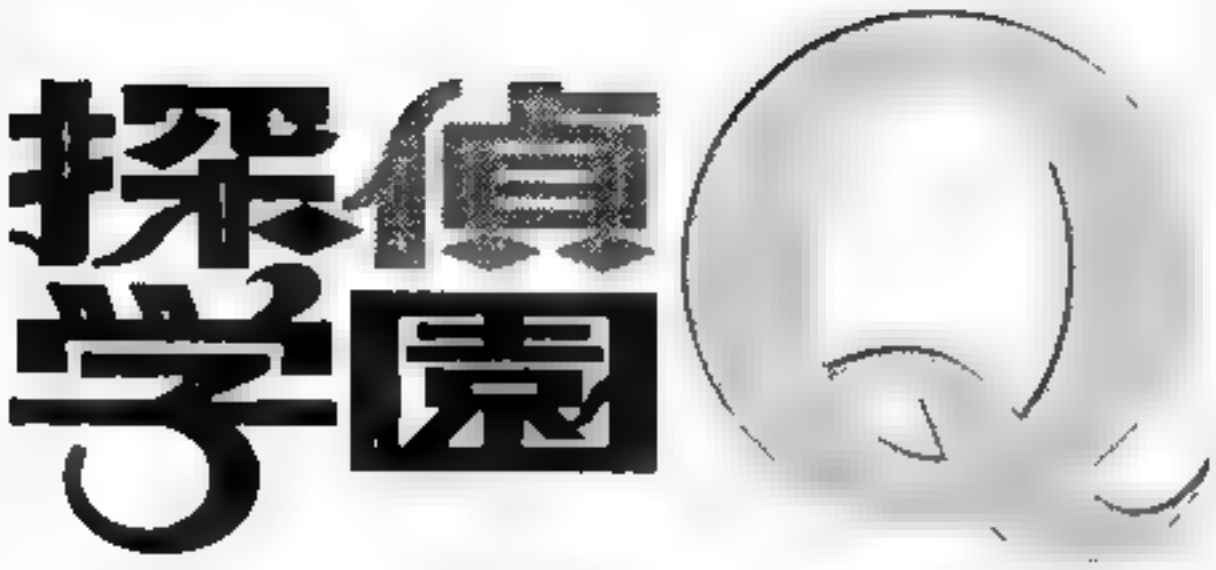
GUESS I'LL JUST GO HOME NOW.

IT'S TOO BAD.

HA

HA

HA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IRREGULAR SCANS CREDITS

RAW SOURCE : PHIESELPHIE
CLEANING : PANCAKEREAPER
TRANSLATIONS : HOPE AND GREENHORN
TYPESETTING : THE WATCHFUL GENT

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ARTISTS

HE SAID HE'D

CHAPTER 120 : MURDER IN THE VILLAGE OF SUSPENSION BRIDGES - PART 1

I WAS JUST MAKING SOME COFFEE FOR YOU.
AH, YOU'RE BACK...
OH, AZUMA-SAN.
PHEW!
ガチャ
12番
DIDN'T THE VISIT GO WELL?
YEAH.
HM? WHAT'S WITH THE FACE?
HUH?
I COULDN'T. BOTH THE DOOR AND WINDOWS WERE CLOSED.
YOU ASKED HIM ABOUT THE CASE, RIGHT?
I SEE. WELL, EVEN IF YOU COULDN'T SEE OHTORI-SAN'S SCULPTURE,

DID YOU TAKE A LOOK AROUND THE COTTAGE?

I DID, BUT ..

IT WAS LOCKED

WHAT OF THE DOOR OF THE COTTAGE?

I SLIPPED WHEN I WAS CROSSING THE BRIDGE...

SO I WAS A LITTLE LATE

THAT'S WHY I COULDN'T SEE INSIDE DESPITE THE LIGHT BEING ON.

THE CURTAINS WERE CLOSED AS WELL...

tring tring tring!

HUH?!

HUH? IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG?

BUT

THAT IS NORMAL.

THERE'S LITTLE POSSIBILITY THAT SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED WITH THE WINDOWS CLOSED.

AND WE KNOW HE'S EXTREMELY CAUTIOUS, BUT

NO WELL, OHTORI-SAN WAS THE ONE WHO PUT THE LOCK INSIDE THE COTTAGE.

OH, KYU?

HELLO, KYU HERE.

PIP!

NOD!

OK?

WHAT IS THE MATTER?

OH, KANO-ON !SAN.

IT'S ME KANO,

THE JAPANESE PAINTING ARTIST.

THE PERFECT SCENARIO TO HUNT DOWN A MURDERER, FU FU FU...

THE HECK IS HE ON ABOUT?

EH?

THE MOON ON A CLEAR NIGHT IS A VERY ROMANTIC PICTURE, DON'T YOU THINK?

AHH, NOTH NG MUCH...

THE MOON AFTER A RA N IS VEEERY PRETTY ..

WANNA HAVE SOME FOR YOURSELF? COME OVER TO MY PLACE, WON'T YOU?

ER, NO. I'M A MINOR.

SO? I'M ONLY NINETEEN MYSELF.

ONI SAN, ARE YOU DRUNK?

MHMM, JUST A BIT...

HUH?!

WELL, WHAT-EVER... I JUST WANTED TO SAY THAT I'VE FIGURED IT OUT...

A CLUE BEH ND THE TRICK OF KUZURYUU TAUKUMI'S SENRINRYUU.

FU FU, I WAS JUST JOKING. I'M NOT EVEN DRINKING.

I CANNOT ALLOW THIS, AS A DETECTIVE.

CALLING MINORS TO YOUR ROOM TO DRINK WITH YOU IS ALSO A CRIME... ON MORE THAN ONE ACCOUNT...

F NE, I BELIEVE YOU. NOW GO TO BED.

GOOD NIGHT.

PIP!

AHH, THAT VOICE... COULD IT BE AZUMA SAN?

ISN'T DR.NKING ALCOHOL UNDER THE AGE OF 20 FORBIDDEN, KANO-SAN?

EH?

GEEZ, WHAT WAS THAT FOR?

YOU'D BETTER BE CARE-FUL. HE HAS THAT TENDEN-CY.

TEND AND SEE WHAT?

... NEVER MIND KYU.

コポ

コポ

WHAT'S WRONG?

NOTHING. BUT JUST REMEMBER THIS, KYU...

THERE IS A MEANING BEHIND WHY A DETECTIVE SERVES COFFEE.

IT'S HOT, MIND.

HERE, DRINK THIS COFFEE.

BEST NOT TO THINK ABOUT IT TOO MUCH.

OR MAYBE,

TEND AND SEE THE R WORK?

THANKS!

TOO HOT!!

HEH.

AND WHEN YOU ARE DRINKING SOMETHING HOT...

YES...

YOU'RE CAREFUL, RIGHT?

FIRST OF ALL, COFFEE IS ALWAYS SERVED HOT, RIGHT?

THAT IS RIGHT. AND IT'S ALWAYS COFFEE WE SERVE, NO OTHER DRINK.

MEA-NING?

A SEEMINGLY HAPPY PERSON WILL CRINGE WHEN DRINKING COFFEE...

AND THAT IS WHEN A PERSON LOSES TRACK OF THEIR SURROUNDINGS,

AND THEIR TRUE TEMP-ERAMENT WILL SURFACE FROM THE DEEP...

AND THEREIN LIES THEIR TRUE FACE.

...

I'VE DRUNK COFFEE MY WHOLE LIFE AND I'VE NEVER REALISED.

R-... REALLY...

JUST BY SEEING HOW THEY LIFT THE CUP, WE CAN KNOW IF THEY ARE ROUGH OR GENTLE.

YOU CAN FIGURE OUT IF A PERSON'S DOMINANT HAND IS THEIR LEFT OR RIGHT. WE CAN SEE IF THEY ADD MILK OR SUGAR OR IF THEY LIKE IT BLACK.

IT'S VERY DIFFERENT FROM DRINK-ING JUICE OR ANY-THING ELSE...

THERE IS A CUP OF COFFEE IN FRONT OF SOMEONE,

BUT THEY DON'T EVEN TOUCH THE CUP...

WHAT IS GOING THROUGH THEIR MIND AT THAT TIME?

OKAY, THEN TRY TO GIVE ME AN ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION.

WAIT, I GOT IT!!

WHAT COULD IT BE?!

DOESN'T DRINK, EH?

LET ME SEE.

A PSYCHOLOGICAL POINT OF VIEW?

TRY TO THINK FROM A PSYCHOLOGICAL POINT OF VIEW.

U-UM, PERHAPS BUT...

THE COFFEE IS TOO HOT FOR THEM!

SO THAT MAKES ME A LITTLE SHY TO DRINK IN THE FIRST PLACE.

BUT THEN MY FRIEND WHO GAVE ME THE DRINK WILL POUR ME ANOTHER ONE.

ANOTHER THING. WHENEVER THERE IS A DRINK IN FRONT OF ME, I ALWAYS FINISH IT...

MAYBE HE IS PREOCCUPIED WITH SOMETHING ELSE?

IS IT BECAUSE HE DOESN'T WANT TO DRINK THE COFFEE?

THAT'S AMAZING!

I SEE! SO THIS WAY, WE CAN LEARN A LOT ABOUT THE OTHER PERSON!

THE PERSON DOES NOT WANT TO GIVE IN TO THE OTHER PARTNER.

EXACTLY! SO IN OTHER WORDS, WE CAN SAY THAT ..

AN ASSISTANT AT DAN MORIHIKO'S INVESTIGATIVE AGENCY.

BUT TO BE HONEST, AT ONE TIME I WAS...

HOW TO ANALYZE SOMEONE FROM THEIR COFFEE.

I WAS TAUGHT TH S BY MY SENIOR.

YES, THE TRUTH IS,

I REALLY DON'T LIKE TO TALK ABOUT IT, BUT OH WELL...

YOUR SENIOR?

N-NO WAY... COULD IT BE THAT PERSON?!

AND AMONG THEM, THE ONE WHO TAUGHT ME THIS WAS...

WHAT IS NOW DDS WAS THEN A RESPECTABLE DETECTIVE AGENCY WITH ONLY TEN WORKERS...

TWENTY YEARS AGO...

HUH?!

thump

thump

SATORU RENJO...

DAN-SAN'S RIGHT HAND MAN!

IT WAS THE DETECTIVE OJISAN!!

S-SO IT'S TRUE!!!

AT ONE TIME, THERE WAS THIS CASE...

かーばっ

PLEASE TELL ME AZUMA-SAN!

WHAT KIND OF CASES DID RENJO-SAN HANDLE?!

WELL OKAY...

IS THAT SO...

EH? YOU KNEW DETECTIVE RENJO?

HE'S THE REASON I ASPIRE TO BE A DETECTIVE!

YES!

FROM WHEN HE WAS AN ASS STANT TO DAN-SENSEI.

THE NIGHT WENT BY IN A SWIRL OF MEMORIES AND THE ILLUSION OF A FLASHBACK...

AND SO, I WAS CARRIED AWAY BY THE STORIES OF RENJO-SAN...

I'VE GOT TO GUARD OHTORI-SAN...

AND YOU NEED TO WORK ON THE MYS-TERY OF THE SENRIN-RYUU.

OI OI, IT'S MIDNIGHT ALREADY, KYU.

AND, AND?!

THE NEXT CASE?

SIP!

GOODNIGHT, AZUMA-SAN!

GOOD NIGHT, KYU.

THEN IT IS TIME FOR BED.

...OH YEAH.

YES, SURE!

I'LL CHECK ON OHTORI-SAN TOMO-RROW...

W LL YOU COME?

EH?

RENJO?

...

EH?

NO, IT'S NOTH-ING...

GOOD-NIGHT, KYU.

WHAT IS IT?

SORRY, I DIDN'T HEAR THAT.

THE SENRIN-RYU...

THE COVER HAS A MOTIF OF TWO DRAGONS LIKE THIS,

DOES IT DEPICT THE DRAGON'S SCALES?

キュッ

ハァ...

SO, A LOT OF THINGS HAPPENED TODAY...

ALTHOUGH THE NEWS OF THE MURDER CASE A YEAR AGO WAS SHOCK NG...

I WAS EVEN MORE SURPRISED TO LEARN AZUMA-SAN WORKED AT DDS!

AND THOSE CHINESE CHARACTERS ON THE BACK, THEY SAID SOMETHING LIKE...

柔狎而騎也
然其喉下有逆鱗径尺

IF THE DRAGON'S WRATH IS SPILLED...

ITS FURY WILL MAKE VICTIMS OUT OF US...

ふわあああああ

IT'S NO USE...

TIME TO SLEEP!

ぼふ!

TOMO-RROW S ANO-THER DAY.

スー スー...

COME WITH ME KYU!!

HUH?!

KYU'! KYU!!

GAAAHH'! KIKUE?!

HUH?

SO I RAN OVER TO CHECK ON HIM AT COTTAGE NUMBER THIRTEEN.

I TRIED TO CONTACT HIM THROUGH THE INTERPHONE, BUT THERE WAS NO ANSWER...

BUT WHEN I OPENED THE DOOR...

!!

THERE LAY OUT JOB-SAN'S BODY, WITH A SICKLE STABBED TO H'S BACK

PIECES OF MARBLE FROM THE SCULPTURE WERE SCATTERED ON HIM LIKE FLOWER PETALS,

NOW LAY IN PIECES.

THE SCULPTURE THAT A MUTE MAN HAD SPENT A WHOLE YEAR MAKING IN EXCHANGE TO REVEAL THE KILLER OF A MURDER...

AND ALONG WITH IT, WAS ITS SCULPTOR, ALSO SILENCED FOREVER.

N-NO WAY

TIME OF DEATH IS AROUND 10 PM. OR TO BE PRECISE, A 40 MINUTE PERIOD BETWEEN 9.10PM AND 9.50 PM.

YES, SO...

SO IT'S HAPPENED AGAIN...

AND I'M ELECTED TO BE THE CORONER FOR NOW.

HOW IS IT?

IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN,

HM.

I DO HAVE 30 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

WELL, YES. I'M RETIRED, BUT...

ARE YOU SURE?

WHEN KYU ARRIVED AT THE COTTAGE, THE DOOR WAS LOCKED FROM THE INSIDE AND HE GOT NO ANSWER DESPITE KNOCKING MANY TIMES,

AS YOU CAN SEE, THIS DOOR CANNOT BE OPENED FROM THE OUTSIDE...

AND THE KEYS ARE MISSING.

SO IT'S POSSIBLE THE MURDER WAS BEING COMMITTED AT THE TIME.

AZUMA-SAN!

I TALKED TO HIM THROUGH THE INTERPHONE AT 9.20...

I WAS DELAYED AT THE BRIDGE, SO NOT SURE.

ARRIVED AT HIS PLACE AT 9.30 AND CAME BACK TO MY PLACE AT 9.50...

WAIT A MINUTE! THE POLICE WILL BE HERE SOON, RIGHT?

YES.

I DON'T WANT TO STAY HERE ANYMORE!

THAT'S IT! I'M OUTTA HERE!

!!

SO THE MURDERER MUST HAVE STILL BEEN INSIDE THE ROOM!

SO IF THERE WAS NO ONE INSIDE THE ROOM, IT COULD NOT HAVE BEEN LOCKED...

THEY HAVE NO CHOICE TO WAIT TILL KAZURA BRIDGE IS UP AGAIN.

AND IT IS DIFFICULT FOR PATROL CARS TO COME UP HERE.

THEY ARE BEING HELD BACK BY THE WORKERS FIXING THE BRIDGE...

UNFORTUNATELY, THE POLICE WILL NOT BE HERE TILL NOON TOMORROW...

IT'S TOO DANGEROUS TO FLY A HELICOPTER IN THIS WEATHER AND IN THE MIDDLE OF CLIFFS.

CALM DOWN, KAMIKIDA-SAN...

I HAVE OTHER APPOINTMENTS. I CANNOT BE HELD UP HERE

HOW ABOUT A HELICOPTER? WE CAN ASK THE POLICE TO USE ONE

!!

WITH A PERSON WHO HAS MURDERED TWO PEOPLE?

SO WE'VE GOT TO WAIT TILL TOMORROW NOON.

THE ONLY PATCH OF LAND IN THE VILLAGE IS NOT SUITABLE FOR HELI-COPTER LANDING.

IN THIS CAGE WITH A VICIOUS MURDERER LIKE HIM.

AM I RIGHT?

...

IN ORDER TO CONFINE US...

HE MAY ALSO BE THE ONE WHO CUT OFF THE BRIDGE...

OHTORI-SAN'S MURDERER IS CLEARLY THE SAME ONE FROM A YEAR AGO...

CALM DOWN!

W-WHAT?!

HM? AREN'T YOU THE MOST SUSPICIOUS OF US ALL, PRETENDING TO BE SCARED, ANDERSON-SAN?

COULD IT BE YOU ARE THE KILLER?!

WHAT'S WITH THAT TALK, KANO?!

A-ALIBI?!

HOW CAN I PROVE MY ALIBI?

H-HEY, I WAS ALONE IN MY COTTAGE!

FROM 9 PM YESTER-DAY...

NO, FROM 9.20 PM YESTERDAY WHEN KYU CALLED OHTORI-SAN, I NEED YOUR ALIBIS...

TILL 9.50 PM.

I SPOKE WITH THE POLICEMEN, AND TILL THEY GET HERE, I AM IN CHARGE.

SO I WISH TO ASK EVERY-ONE A QUESTION HERE...

I CALLED KYU FROM THE INTER-PHONE IN MY ROOM...

AND WHEN I SAW THE CLOCK, IT WAS PAST 9.40 PM, ABOUT 9.45 PM, I'D SAY.

EH?

I HAVE ONE...

MAY I HAVE A MAP OF THE VILLAGE?

HERE YOU GO.

THANK YOU...

DO YOU SEE?

HM, I SEE YOUR BIG CHEST IS COMPENSATION FOR YOUR LACK OF BRAINS.

WHAT DID YOU SAY?!

AND HOW DOES THAT MAKE IT YOUR ALIBI?

SO IF HE DIED AT 9.20 PM, YOU COULD'VE KILLED HIM AND COME BACK!

YOU CAN GO TO OHTORI-SAN'S ROOM IN JUST TEN MINUTES FROM YOURS IF YOU HURRY...

I HAVE TO PASS BY KYU'S COTTAGE #12 TO REACH MY COTTAGE, NUMBER 9...

SO IF YOU SUSPECT ME AS THE MURDERER,

THEN I WOULD HAVE RUN INTO KYU ON MY WAY BACK AFTER KILLING THE OLD MAN.

8
7
12 KYU
AZUMA 6
9 KANO
4
13 OHTORI
10
2
11
ANDERSON 1
MAIN COTTAGE
KIKUE AND GINZO
5 KAMIKIDA

EXCEPT FOR ONE PERSON,

KAMI-KIDA-SAN?

ISN'T THAT RIGHT?

OHTORI-SAN DOES NOT OPEN HIS DOOR TO ANYONE,

THEN WHAT ABOUT A DETOUR?

THAT'LL TAKE THIRTY MINUTES.

ALSO, THE GROUND AROUND THE PLANKS IS VERY MUDDY...

WALKING IN A HURRY AFTER A MURDER IS VERY DIFFICULT.

SO GET IT?

I AM NOT THE KILLER.

WAIT!

THERE IS ONLY ONE PERSON WHO COULD'VE DONE IT.

EH?

KIKUE!

YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE WHO TO ALLOWED TO ENTER HIS ROOM!

W-WHAT?!

KIKUE-SAN?!

END OF VOLUME 16

探偵学園Q